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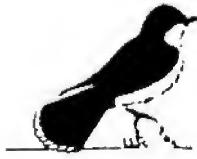
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MITRED PARAKEETS (*Aratinga mitrata*) IN QUEENS AND NASSAU COUNTIES, NEW YORK

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On two occasions in recent years, while walking between my apartment and the subway station in urban Forest Hills, Queens County, New York, I have encountered the anomalous spectacle of a flock of large, noisy, bright-green and red parrots. Other passers-by were as impressed as I, and each time a crowd gathered in amazement.

The birds were Mitred Parakeets (*Aratinga mitrata*), and I learned that local birders have been aware of their presence in Queens County and southwestern Nassau County in recent years. The purpose of this article is to document several recent sightings and to provide a summary of what is known regarding the origin, abundance, distribution, and possible breeding of these charismatic parrots in New York City and western Long Island.

My most recent sighting in Forest Hills was on 13 April 2009, when I found a flock of 15 birds in front of an apartment building at 78-11 Kew Forest Lane. I observed them from 4:15-4:35 p.m. More than two years earlier, on 24 February 2007, I observed a flock of 13 birds in the same location, for approximately 15 minutes at 11:00 a.m. In both instances, the birds were feeding on the berries of two hackberry trees (*Celtis occidentalis*). The trees were bare, the berries persisting through the winter. On 13 April 2009, I was fortunate to have binoculars with me. Also notable on this occasion was that the birds were actively exploring the eaves of the apartment building, as if searching for hollows and potential nesting sites. On both occasions the flock flew off toward the west, squawking loudly in chorus.

The identification of these birds as *A. mitrata* was established as follows: They had long tails and overall were bright green. A trace of red, orange or yellow (at most a few feathers) was visible on the bend of the wing ("wrist") on some birds; most had only green there. The underwing coverts were green, with some yellow mottling on a few birds, but no red. Some birds had completely red faces, with bright red from the crown to the chin, and all around the eye. On 13 April 2009, at least three of the birds had red restricted to the forehead, with patchy orange, yellow, and green feathers on the rest of the face, and no red around the eye. This is consistent with the identification of these individuals as immatures (Juniper and Parr 1998, Arndt 2006). All birds had a white orbital ring. Some birds had brown on the forehead just above the bill. The birds had numerous red, orange or yellow feathers on the body, the sides of the head and nape. A number of birds showed variation on the facial pattern, with intermediate amounts of red feathering.

Several *Aratinga* species in the United States may be confused with *A. mitrata*, especially in immature plumages. However, none of these are currently

naturalized in the northeastern U.S. Most similar is the Red-masked Parakeet (*A. erythrogenys*) (Butler 2005, Pranty and Garrett 2003). This species has more red in the bend of the wing than *A. mitrata*, and red at the leading edge of the underwing coverts. The Green Parakeet (*A. holochlora*) lacks any patches of red on the forehead and crown.

The Monk Parakeet (*Myiopsitta monachus*) is established in the New York City metropolitan area. Colonies exist locally throughout. It has a pale gray forehead and breast, and the flight feathers and wing coverts are extensively blue, both above and below. These are sometimes useful field marks for fly-over birds.

The Black-hooded Parakeet (*Nandayus nenday*) was confirmed breeding in 1980 in Westchester County (Andrle and Carroll 1988). These birds, numbering approximately six, perished in a cold snap in December 1980. Probable breeding of single pairs was observed in Brooklyn and Nassau County in 1984. The species has not been recorded in our area recently. Field marks distinguishing Black-hooded Parakeet include the sooty-black frontal portion of the head, and pale blue wash on the upper breast.

A. mitrata is native to southwestern South America, from southern Peru and western Bolivia to northern Argentina. It is found in a variety of temperate zone habitats including montane evergreen and deciduous forest, cultivated areas, and open shrub land, savannah, and woodland (Juniper and Parr 1998). It is typically found at 1000-3500m elevation, and has been recorded to 4000m in Peru. It is often found around tall rock faces. It nests in such locations, or in tree cavities.

In North America, naturalized populations of *A. mitrata* are found in California and Florida (Butler 2005). In Los Angeles and Orange Counties, California, populations increased from the 1980s to the 1990s. Estimates are of several hundred to more than 1000 birds, and these birds are believed to be *A. m. tucumana* ("Tucuman" Mitred Parakeet: California Parrot Project, 2009). Pranty and Garret (2003) identify the Mitred Parakeets in Florida and California as the nominate subspecies, *A.m. mitrata*. The American Ornithologists Union added the species to the AOU North America checklist in 2002, considering the southern California populations established (Banks et al. 2002). However, the species is not on the American Birding Association Checklist or on any checklist established by state bird records committees (Pranty and Garrett 2003).

Arndt (2006) proposed taxonomic revisions to the *A. mitrata* complex. Using the new taxonomy, the identification of the Queens birds is consistent with the subspecies *A. m. tucumana* ("Tucuman" Mitred Parakeet), of northwestern Argentina. Identification features include the red feathers about the body, the sides of the head, and the nape; and the completely red faces of the adult birds. There is substantial variation in plumage among Mitred Parakeets due to age, sex, and possible inbreeding. Additional study is needed to establish sub-specific identification.

To my knowledge, there is no documentation in the scientific literature of naturalized Mitred Parakeets in New York or the northeastern U.S. In fact, substantial documentation of Mitred Parakeets in New York is virtually non-existent. The species has not been recorded on any Christmas bird count, or in

the Atlas of Breeding Birds of New York State. I have investigated the available anecdotal information, through newspaper articles, Internet searches, and conversations and e-mail with various individuals. The information from these sources has not been entirely consistent, and large gaps exist. Nevertheless, I believe it provides a generally reliable picture of the origin, status and distribution of the New York population.

Upon posting my 13 April 2009 sighting to the NYSBirds Listserv, I was contacted by a homeowner in the Hillcrest Estates section of Queens. He stated that Mitred Parakeets had been visiting each spring since 2006 to feed on the blossoms of two ornamental cherry trees in his front yard. He said he had first seen them this year on 14 April. On 18 April, I went to Hillcrest Estates and observed 15 Mitred Parakeets, feeding on cherry blossoms. I took several photographs (e.g., Fig. E, p. 265) of at least five individuals, one of which showed no red around the eye. I have little doubt that these were the same birds I observed on 13 April in Forest Hills, just 1.7 miles away. Follow-up communications with the homeowner indicated that the birds continued to visit through 20 April. The homeowner also provided photographs of an immature bird that visited in 2006 (Fig. F, p. 265).

A number of birders have said they have seen the birds, and have provided valuable information. But I have been unable to obtain any field notes or specific information to establish precise dates, locations, and numbers.

Sightings of these birds often generate interest among the general public. Marc Morrone, owner of "Parrots of the World", in Rockville Centre, New York, has been the recipient of many public inquiries, and thus a key source of information on the birds. He has been involved in a number of newspaper accounts (e.g., Rhoades 2006, Strum 1999). I discussed the birds with him over the telephone on 18 April 2009.

The origin of the birds remains speculative. Two possibilities have been mentioned: escape of a number of birds from a pet trade shipment at a New York airport (usually stated to be J.F.K. Airport), or that birds escaped from captivity in several separate incidents, and found one another. The time period of the population's origin is reliably established between 1979 and 1984.

Over 140,000 Mitred Parakeets were captured for the pet trade and imported to the U.S. from 1981-1990, including over 35,000 birds from Bolivia and at least 108,000 from Argentina (Pranty and Garrett 2003). New York is among three primary ports for the importation of wildlife from the American tropics to the U.S. (Pranty, pers. comm.). Escape of very small numbers of the imported birds during transport or quarantine could explain the numbers of Mitred Parakeets that have been documented in our area to this day. These might also be supplemented by escaped pets or local aviculture breeding stock.

In addition to the two aforementioned Queens locations, there is information on sightings of the birds in the following localities: Forest Park, Kew Gardens, Rosedale, and Cunningham Park, in Queens County; and the Five Towns (a collective name for the communities of Lawrence, Cedarhurst, Woodmere, Inwood, and Hewlett in the Town of Hempstead), Merrick, Lynbrook, Malverne, East Rockaway, Oceanside, and Valley Stream, in Nassau

County. The birds may range as far east as Massapequa, and north to Eisenhower State Park in Nassau (Morrone, pers. comm.), but the primary area appears to be southwestern Nassau County. They also occur in Queens west of Forest Hills, at locations unknown, as I have seen them flying off in that direction. It is approximately nine miles from Forest Hills to the Five Towns, and 15 miles from the Five Towns to Massapequa.

The Merrick locality derives from a sighting of my own. I recall seeing a flock of parrots in the backyard of the home where I grew up. They were feeding on the waxy fruits of an Arborvitae. By newspaper accounts at the time, I concluded they were Mitred Parakeets. The latest date this could have been was 1984. Most recently, an account in Newsday on 30 April 2009 reported that a flock of "about 20" Mitred Parakeets were seen sunning on the roof of a house in Malverne about a week earlier. These may be the same 15 birds recently seen around Queens. Also, several birds were photographed in Kew Gardens, Queens, as reported on 4 May (Brooklyn Parrots 2009).

Although 15 or so birds have been seen recently around Queens, there are also several reports on the Internet of a flock numbering 25 to as many as 40 birds around southwestern Nassau County in winter 2008-09. These numbers probably represent most or all of the current population of feral Mitred Parakeets in the area.

In 1999, Mitred Parakeets were seen in Central Park, Manhattan. According to an account in the New York Times, the birds were first recorded in the Central Park bird log on 18 March, and were present until at least 30 March (Strum 1999). Verbal accounts indicate there may have been between 10 and 30 birds. Morrone believes these birds split from the Queens/Nassau flock. What became of them is unknown. In any case, the small local population does not appear to be increasing significantly. I also received a report that Mitred Parakeets were seen in Central Park circa 1993.

In contrast to Mitred Parakeet populations in California and Florida, which are widespread in several metropolitan areas, the relatively restricted range of the birds in New York, mostly near J.F.K. Airport, suggests that J.F.K. may have been a primary locus for the origin of the population during the period when large numbers of birds were imported.

Most, if not all, sightings have been from winter through early spring (generally February to May). There is very little evidence of the whereabouts of the birds from June through January. Morrone stated that the birds gather to search for food in winter, and typically break into smaller groups the remainder of the year. This is consistent with the habits of *A. mitrata* in its native range, where large flocks gather to feed on maize and seasonal fruits, and is similar to the behavior of naturalized flocks in southern California (Collins and Kares 1997).

The consistency in the dates and locations of the recent Queens sightings suggests a coherent naturalized flock, with birds that have learned favorable feeding locations. Even so, it is unlikely that even this long-lived species could have persisted for decades at the levels observed recently without new introductions or local breeding—a point further reinforced by the presence of

immature birds in the recently observed flocks. The most direct evidence that the birds are breeding locally involves Morrone's report that he saw a nest with two adult birds and several young in the aluminum siding of a house in Rosedale, Queens, circa 1987. He also stated that in the late 1990s, someone brought him a fledgling from Cunningham Park, Queens.

Much is still unknown about our local Mitred Parakeets, and there remains little evidence that the species is becoming established in New York. I hope this article will inspire local birders to seek out these birds and provide additional documentation, so that we can learn more. I welcome birders to contact me if they have additional information.

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BIRD POPULATIONS IN WESTERN NEW YORK STATE: INSIGHTS FROM THE ANNUAL COUNTS OF THE BUFFALO ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY

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The recently published *Second Atlas of Breeding Birds in New York State* (McGowan and Corwin 2008) provides an informative picture of the geographical distribution of the breeding birds in New York State, but this work does not really tell us much about relative or absolute abundance. Each positive atlas block could indicate the presence of only one or two birds of the particular species or it could represent thousands. This weakness is mitigated to some extent by comparisons between the atlas results and data from the Breeding Bird Survey (Sauer et al. 2008), a more quantitative measure of actual populations based on series of point counts, but the efficacy of the BBS approach varies greatly among regions and species, and point counts are by no means a perfect means of estimating abundance (Confer et al. 2008). The Buffalo Ornithological Society (BOS) conducts annual counts that provide another, complementary view of bird populations over a fairly large portion of western New York State.

Conducted on a single day each April, May, and October, these counts provide a sample of all of the birds present in the BOS territory on that day. Table 1 compares some of the geographical atlas data from *Kingbird* Region 1 with averaged values of the Annual May Count for six selected species. *Kingbird* Region 1 overlaps closely with the New York State portion of the BOS territory. There are obviously some similarities and some differences. The strong increases and decreases in the atlas data correlate with strong increases and decreases in the May count data, and the magnitudes of the changes are roughly

Table 1. Comparison of Atlas Region 1 data with the BOS May count data for selected species.

Species	1 st Atlas # blocks	2 nd Atlas # blocks	% change	BOS May Avg. 80-85	BOS May Avg. 00-05	% change
Bald Eagle	2	39	+1,850	0.3	12.2	+3,586
Carolina Wren	14	134	+857	1.0	22.2	+2,116
D. C. Cormorant	0	10	∞	14.2	2228.3	+15,637
Red-head. Woodp.	132	36	-72	29.2	19.0	-35
Vesper Sparrow	119	65	-45	15.8	4.3	-73
Blue-wing. Teal	74	26	-64	59.2	26.2	-56

similar. However, there is little correspondence between the number of blocks recorded for the atlas and the average number of birds observed on the May count. Plots of the April, May and October data for each individual species can give us an even more detailed history of each species.

One advantage that the BOS counts have is the potential to define several parameters that represent the area's bird community as a whole: the overall number of birds observed; the species richness (number of species observed); and the species diversity index, reflecting both species richness and relative abundance. Figure 1 shows the total individuals observed each year on the May count from 1965-2008. The trend line for all of these plots is a Lowess regression with the parameter $f = 0.5$. This gives a smooth damped regression. Other higher or lower values of f that are typically used would give a smoother or a more jagged appearance to the regression line but would not change the basic conclusions stated below. Clearly the trend from 1980-85 to 2000-05 is upward. However, it is not clear if changes in the collection of the count data, for example an increase in the effort, or actual population changes are the cause of this trend.

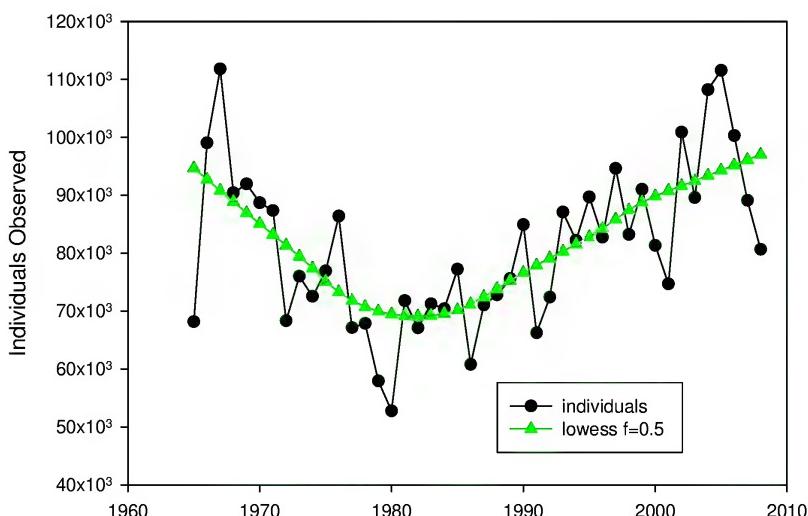


Figure 1. Total individuals observed on the May count for 1965-2008.

Figure 2 shows a plot of the species richness for each year of the May count from 1965-2008. It also shows an upward trend in going from 1980-85 to 2000-05 with the same caution as to the origin of the trend. Finally in Figure 3, the Shannon diversity index H' (Shannon 1948, Weaver and Shannon 1949) is plotted and defined. The Shannon diversity index is a measure of the diversity of the bird population. For example, it can be intuitively recognized that a bird population that has ten birds each of ten species is more diverse than one that has one bird each of nine species and 91 starlings, even though they both have the same number of individuals and the same number of species. For the first case, the Shannon diversity index would be its maximum value and for the second its minimum value, for bird communities consisting of ten species. The diversity index has the advantage that it is not dependent in the first order on the count effort. The trend of the diversity index is clearly downward in going from 1980-85 to 2000-05, although there is considerable scatter in the data. This trend would indicate increases in the more populous species at the expense of some of the rarer species. Clearly the BOS counts can provide a wealth of information about the local bird populations that is not available from any other source.

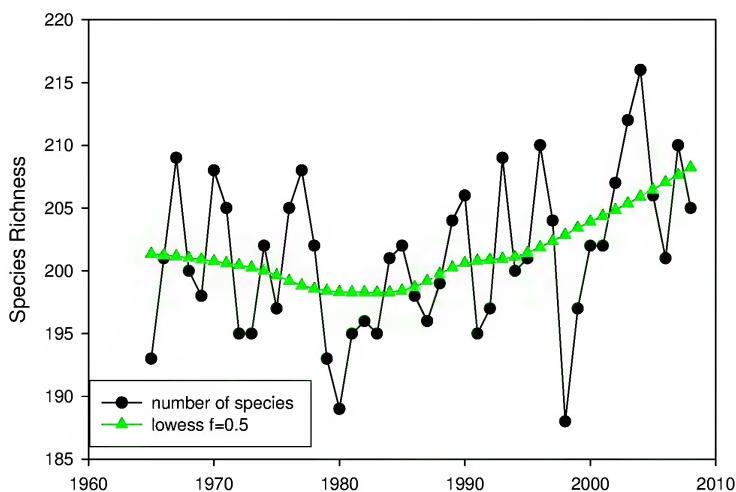


Figure 2. Species richness for the May count 1965-2008.

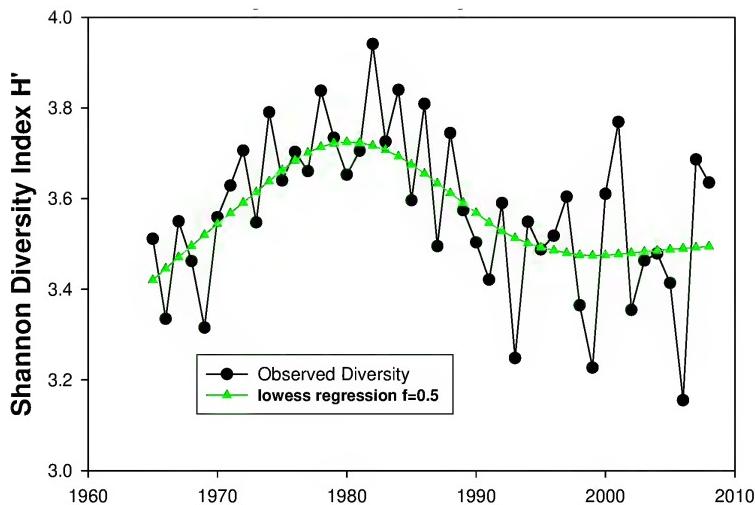


Figure 3. Shannon diversity index (H') for the May count 1965-2008.

$H' = - \sum (p_i \ln p_i)$, where p_i is the proportion of total individuals belonging the i th species, and $p_i \ln p_i$ is summed over all species.

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NOTES AND OBSERVATIONS

ADDITIONS TO THE NEW YORK STATE AVIAN CHECKLIST AND A CHANGE TO THE NYSARC REVIEW LIST

To streamline the review process, the New York State Avian Records Committee (NYSARC) publishes occasional short notes announcing new additions to the New York State Avian Checklist. Full details of the records will appear in the appropriate Annual Report, as is customary. Reports from 2007 provided four additions to the New York State Checklist, namely **Pink-footed Goose** *Anser brachyrhynchus*, based on the individual discovered near Montauk, Suffolk Co. on 18 Nov and continuing into 2008, **Western Reef-Heron** *Egretta gularis* based on the bird that frequented Coney Island Creek, Brooklyn, Kings Co. from 9 Jul into Aug, **Cassin's Kingbird** *Tyrannus vociferans* from the 13 Oct sighting in Montauk, Suffolk Co., and **Scott's Oriole** *Icterus parisorum* from the bird found in mid-town Manhattan, New York Co. on 4 Dec and continuing into 2008.

The Committee also voted to accept a ‘Yellow’ Wagtail *Motacilla tschutschensis/flava* that was photographed at Plumb Beach, Brooklyn, Kings Co., on 7 Sep 2008. This is the first accepted record of any wagtail for NYS and is apparently the first ‘Yellow’ Wagtail for eastern North America. In 2004, the American Ornithologists’ Union split Eastern Yellow Wagtail *M. tschuteschensis*—the form breeding in North America and likely occurring as a vagrant along the Pacific coast—from the Yellow Wagtail *M. flava* but in doing so created a severe identification challenge. After careful review, NYSARC considered the details of the Brooklyn bird insufficient to distinguish between the two species at this time but was convinced that this was indeed one of the two closely-allied species. With these inclusions, the NYS list stands at 475 species.

Ten years ago, **Cave Swallow** *Petrochelidon fulva* was an extreme rarity in the Northeast, with only a handful of records from NYS. Since then birders have witnessed a remarkable, and still largely unexplained, change in the pattern of post-breeding dispersal, with scores of birds moving into the region in the late fall (late-Oct into Dec). In reality, a Cliff Swallow *P. pyrrhonota* at this time would be significantly rarer. Consequently, NYSARC will no longer review reports of Cave Swallow from this period. Sightings from other times in the year (Jan-early Oct) should be documented in full and submitted to the Committee.

New York State Avian Records Committee: Angus Wilson (Chair), Jeanne Skelly (Secretary), Jeffrey S. Bolsinger, Thomas W. Burke, Willie D’Anna, Andrew Guthrie, Shaibal S. Mitra and Dominic Sherony.

A CERULEAN WARBLER SINGING A HOODED WARBLER SONG

On 30 May 2009, at Doodletown Rd., Rockland County, among the plentiful Cerulean and Hooded Warblers that were present, there was one Cerulean Warbler that was performing a spot-on rendition of a Hooded Warbler song. It briefly performed a few typical Cerulean songs at one point, but was clearly favoring the Hooded song. The only discernible difference between this bird's song and that of a typical Hooded was that it added an extra phrase: i.e. "wheeta-wheeta-wheeta-wheechy-o." It was bizarre watching this bird singing a song that was so different in both cadence and voice than the one that one would have expected.

The bird's plumage did not differ in any obvious way from that of a typical Cerulean (see Fig. H., p. 266). A small white patch behind the eye possibly indicates that this was a first-year male. This bird was near the reservoir, at the bend in the trail where it branches to June Cemetery.

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A COMMON X ROSEATE TERN PAIRING ON LONG ISLAND

On 29 May 2009, I observed a male Common Tern courting, feeding, and copulating with a female Roseate Tern at Democrat Pt., Suffolk County, Long Island, NY. They copulated on at least four separate occasions 1641-1805 EDT, including three instances that were photographed (1643, 1708, and 1752 EDT), and they displayed to each other even when other individual Common and Roseate Terns approached them. The male of the interspecific pair, who was individually recognizable by virtue of his somewhat smudgy bill and details of his wingtip pattern, flew off several times and returned at least once with a fish, which he fed to the Roseate.

Such pairings are quite rare, and some documented examples have been shown to involve individuals that were themselves hybrids (Helen Hays pers. comm.; Ian Nisbet, pers. comm.). In this case, the species identities of the birds involved were rigorously assessed (see Fig. G, p. 266). The female Roseate appeared absolutely typical of the species in terms of plumage, structure, soft parts coloration, and voice, and furthermore appeared petite even for Roseate Tern, which is visibly slighter than Common Tern in terms of overall bulk, especially under direct comparison. I considered the possibility of the male being a hybrid Common x Roseate himself, but his body size (large); bill structure (deep dorso-ventrally, not particularly long, and with a noticeably curved culmen); underparts color (deeply and extensively gray); upperparts color (slightly darker than that of Roseate Tern, contrasting markedly with white rump); tail streamers (not very long and showing black outer webs); wingtips (relatively long hands with dark "hooks" on the primary tips) all seemed fine for

Common Tern. I don't remember hearing him call. The extra dark markings on his bill and the appearance of his retained outer primaries (fresher-looking than in most adult Commons at this date) are features I regularly see on "second-summer type" Commons, which typically also show white on the forehead and dusky lesser secondary coverts in combination with their smudgy bills and more uniform-looking wingtips. Ian Nisbet (pers. comm.) agreed that this bird was a Common Tern and suggested that it might have been three years old.

Neither species actually nests at Democrat Pt., nor have they nested there in my experience, from 1996 to present. This site is, however, directly across the Fire Island Inlet from the site of the great Cedar Beach tern colony, which formerly hosted large numbers of breeding Common and Roseate Terns, as well as Black Skimmers. This colony was abandoned around 1996, but smaller numbers of Common Terns have continued breeding nearby on salt marsh islands. Democrat Pt. remains a convenient place to observe pre-breeding staging and mid-summer loafing by many species of terns, including some unusual species. Roseate Terns have returned to Demo every year since I began working the site in 1996, nourishing hopes that a few pairs have continued breeding in the area, probably on the salt marsh islands. This suspicion has been confirmed in recent summers by Brian Zitani's discovery of a few pairs breeding on a marsh island near Gilgo (KB 58: 401).

Whereas a large proportion of the Roseate Terns I see on eastern Long Island are banded, most of those at Democrat Pt. are not. For instance, of 21 Roseates present there on 16 May this year, only three were banded—a ratio that would be difficult to reproduce anywhere near the intensively studied megacolonies at Great Gull Island in eastern LI Sound and Bird Island in Buzzards Bay, Massachusetts. This pattern also suggests that undetected breeding has continued in the area since the demise of the Cedar Beach colony. In a similar vein, careful attention to terns around Fire Island Inlet has also yielded patterns of spring records for Forster's and Gull-billed Terns that are strongly suggestive of breeding by these species as well on the nearby marsh islands of Great South Bay.

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HIGHLIGHTS OF THE SEASON—SPRING 2009

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This season was largely uneventful in its weather. The most interesting bird-related weather event came in the form of a large southerly flow at the end of April, which nearly all Regional editors commented on in their respective reports. This period of warmth and southerly winds started downstate on 23 April and lasted through at least 27 April, when temperatures hit 90° F on Long Island. This system prematurely ushered in a huge number and diversity of neotropical migrants, including a suite of warblers and others not expected until the first week of May. Note the exceptional number of early records scattered throughout the Regional reports—this weather event was clearly very well documented statewide through its birdlife.

Of the numerous rarities reported this period, several outstanding birds were especially noteworthy. A Tufted Duck that spanned the Ulster and Dutchess County line headlined waterfowl for the season. An Anhinga in Orange County (R9) was a typical spring overshoot. A Swallow-tailed Kite in Green County, several Swainson's Hawks in R2 and R5, and four western Red-tailed Hawks in R5 were remarkable raptor records. Detailed documentation on this number of western Red-tailed Hawks, which are thought to be very rare in the east, is desirable. Two separate Northern Hawk-Owls continued into the season in R7, and a Boreal Owl was found at Wilson-Tuscarora S.P (R1). A Eurasian Collared-Dove, still very rare in the state, continued in Monroe County. A male Ruff in Rye (R9) was the shorebird highlight of the season.

Among passernines, a Lark Sparrow at Montezuma NWR was very rare on spring migration (more regular in fall, especially on the coast), and a "Greenland" Hoary Redpoll carefully studied among other Hoaries at Hamlin Beach SP. was an outstanding record for that subspecies. The clear passerine highlight, though, was a Townsend's Warbler at Prospect Park (R10) during the late April surge of early migrants.

Three sightings provided interesting high counts. 100 Long-tailed Ducks on Lake George in the Adirondacks (R8) were noteworthy for an inland location at high elevation. 188 Black Terns were at Perch River WMA (R6). A huge flock of blackbirds numbering over half a million (mostly Common Grackles) was documented by Tom Carrolan near the Seneca River in R5.

Notable trends that characterized the season included an upstate push of southern waders, continued expansions into the state (Black Vulture and Sandhill Crane), and winter invasions carrying over into the period (Snowy Owl and finches).

Though spring often brings a small vanguard of waders upstate, this spring proved exceptional. Three Snowy Egrets were found in R1 and R3, a Tricolored Heron appeared in R1, a Little Blue Heron was seen in R8, a Cattle Egret was in

R1, and three Yellow-crowned Night-Herons were found in R3 and R5. One of these Snowy Egrets was tracked along the entire length of Cayuga Lake from Ithaca to Montezuma NWR.

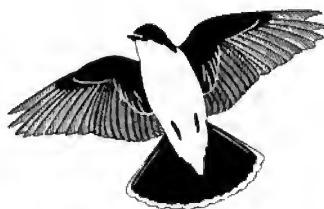
Sandhill Cranes continue their increase in northern, western, and central New York, with numerous reports of migrants as well as a strong number of presumed breeders—a “Lesser” Sandhill Crane (*Grus canadensis canadensis*) reported from Braddock Bay would be just the second for the state of this highly migratory subspecies (almost all records, including breeders, appear to refer to the larger *G. c. tabida*).

Though not surprising given long-term distributional trends in the species, Black Vultures continue to push northward in spring, with reports from Regions 1, 2, 5, and 7 away from typical haunts (though such a pattern has been established along the Lake Ontario plain that Black Vulture is virtually expected there in spring).

Several Snowy Owls lingered into late spring after a strong showing this winter. Along the eastern Lake Ontario Plain, several lingered into May, with one bird in Clayton (R6) remaining through the end of the period.

The finch flight of the winter 2008-2009 carried on into the season, with White-winged Crossbill and Pine Siskin reported in all Regions. White-winged Crossbill lingered and appeared to breed in numerous locations (they were even found in Region 10 until 23 May!), though their numbers were dwarfed in April and May by high numbers of apparently breeding Pine Siskins.

Though the crossbill scene was very much dominated by White-wingeds throughout the state, Red Crossbills were present in an interesting variety. Matt Young reports documenting five different “call types” of Red Crossbills across Central New York (types 1,2,3,4 and 10) during the season (see the R4 report). Redpolls staged a small flight into northern and western New York, but 10 Hoaries (including the aforementioned “Greenland” bird) among 300 Commons at Hamlin Beach S.P. (R2) were especially noteworthy.



REGION 1—NIAGARA FRONTIER

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There was only one previous March with less snow than 2009 (0.5"). Outside of a few cold days early in the month, temperatures were mostly above average and sunshine was abundant. The mean temperature at the Buffalo weather station was 35.4° F, 1.1° above average. There was 3.25" of precipitation, 0.26" above average. Tranquil weather continued in April. The mean temperature was 46.7° F, 1.4° above average. Precipitation was 3.15" (0.11" above average). A four day stretch in the last week brought summer-like weather, 77° F or higher each day, and many migrant passerines. The eastern basin of Lake Erie, including harbors, was ice free on the 13th, about normal. May was mild, dry, and sunny. The average temperature was 57.2° F, 0.2° above normal. Rainfall was scarce with 1.89", 1.46" below normal, most of which fell late in the month.

Besides the prolonged pleasant weather, this spring season was remarkable for the number of early returning migrants. Many were associated with the warm spell and predominantly southwest winds during the period 25-29 April; however, the pattern of earlier arrivals was not limited to that weather event, nor is the pattern limited to this year. Tracking first arrivals is not an exact science as it is affected by weather, observer effort (including weekend bias), and reporting effort among other possible influences. Even though many of the arrivals are just a few days ahead of schedule, it is clear the migration phenology of many species is slowly changing. In many cases what has been considered "early" should now be considered the new normal. Birders are in an interesting position of seeing and tracking the changes in avifauna as a result of changing climate and corresponding ecosystem change.

The first two early arrival species this spring were also the most dramatic in relation to the previous earliest arrivals. Jim Pawlicki and Bill Watson were surprised to find a Great Egret at a pond near the Hamburg Hawk Watch on 9 March, eleven days earlier than the previous earliest return in the Region. On the next day, 10 March, Elaine Dart spotted a shorebird along a wetland in Batavia that was subsequently refound, heard calling, and photographed on 12 March by Doug Beattie. It became the earliest Lesser Yellowlegs in Region 1 by a full two weeks!

Other early arrivals that were either record early, tied with record early date, or second or third earliest included: American Bittern, Virginia Rail, Sora, Common Moorhen, Semipalmated Plover, Ruddy Turnstone, Common Tern, Ruby-throated Hummingbird, Yellow-bellied Sapsucker (although with more wintering, it's becoming challenging to peg the first arrival), Acadian Flycatcher, Least Flycatcher, Red-eyed Vireo, Bank Swallow, Swainson's Thrush, Blue-winged Warbler, Golden-winged Warbler, Northern Parula,

Magnolia Warbler, Blackburnian Warbler, Canada Warbler, Scarlet Tanager, Lincoln's Sparrow, Bobolink, Orchard Oriole, and Baltimore Oriole.

With the tranquil weather, waterfowl migration seemed to be right on schedule. Tundra Swans peaked around mid-March as usual. Migrant geese numbers were highest in March and largely dwindled after the first week of April, a migration pattern that has clearly advanced earlier over the past several decades. Snow Geese reports were few this spring, with a maximum count of 44. No Brant were reported. There was only one report of **Greater White-fronted Goose**, but it tied the maximum count of eight set last spring. **Cackling Goose** made another good showing. There were two, separate sightings of probable Ross's Geese; however, viewing distance precluded confident identification. Multiple sightings of **Eurasian Wigeon** continued the trend of recent spring seasons, as there were three to four identified in addition to a likely Eurasian x American Wigeon hybrid. A hen **Harlequin Duck** was a surprise find on the Niagara River at the late date of 7 May representing the second May record.

Among the ever increasing numbers of Turkey Vultures at the Region's hawk watches, Hamburg and Ripley, three **Black Vultures** were spotted, all in March. The peak for migrant Broad-winged Hawks was on 24 April, with 6,360 counted at Ripley Hawk Watch that day. Three Golden Eagles were identified this spring. Bald Eagle, Osprey, and Peregrine Falcon nesting locations were active and increasing again this year. More details will follow in the summer season report.

Shorebirding seemed about average for spring, with only a few locations around Tonawanda WMA and Iroquois NWR providing suitable habitat. Exposed mud at a wetland in Sherman also attracted shorebirds early in the season. A flock of **Willets** at Bemus Point on Chautauqua Lake, originally found by Paul Baglia, was a rare occurrence. Three distant dowitchers at Tonawanda WMA on 2-3 May were thought to be Long-billed. Six dowitchers at Sherman on 1 May may have also been Long-billed, as the earlier date is more supportive of this species. However, with all the early arriving species this spring, the old calendar is not reliable. Ruddy Turnstones were found at a few more locations than usual, including an early individual at Tonawanda WMA on 9 May. Oddly, there were no Black-bellied Plover reports this spring.

Immature gulls lingering into late May have either been increasing in recent years or observer effort to search through them for uncommon species has increased, or both. Iceland Gull, Glaucous Gull, and Lesser Black-backed Gull were all identified along Lake Ontario in late May. Several Little Gulls and a **Black-headed Gull** were found among immature Bonaparte's Gulls on 29 May at Fort Niagara State Park, consistent with similar findings from early June 2006. Earlier in the season, a good count of 43 **Little Gulls** was made at the same location on 10 April, and an adult Black-headed Gull was spotted on the Niagara River in Lewiston. Inland sightings of Iceland Gull and Lesser Black-backed Gull in March at Oak Orchard WMA and Iroquois NWR were also unusual.

Short-eared Owls were identified at several locations, and a sighting in Porter on 18 April included apparent courtship activities. However, there were

no subsequent sightings at the site. A **Northern Saw-whet Owl** found at Tifft Nature Preserve in mid-May and one heard during the day at Tonawanda WMA on 23 May offer suggestions of breeding based on the dates. A **Boreal Owl** found by Betsy Potter roosting in a tree at Wilson-Tuscarora SP. on 27 March was the fifth Regional report.

There were only a few reports of **Common Nighthawk**, with the first coming in mid May. A Whip-poor-will flushed at Lakeside Beach S.P. on 25 April provided a rare actual sighting.

Continuing from the winter season, **White-winged Crossbills** were common in March, but reports declined in April and there were only two May reports. No evidence of breeding was noted during their stay, however, given their unprecedented abundance it would not be surprising if they did breed somewhere in the Region. Pine Siskins remained very common throughout most of the spring season. Several were still hanging around feeders in late May. Common Redpolls were still around in decent numbers in early March, but most soon departed. Two **Hoary Redpolls** were carefully identified in early March as well. The only reports of Red Crossbill and Evening Grosbeak were on the B.O.S. May Count from Allegany County.

Among rarities not already mentioned, two **American White Pelicans** on Chautauqua Lake 25-29 March were seen by most birders. They were the earliest spring occurrence in the Region. Another pelican reported from Cuba Lake in early April was not found the next day; it is reported here under the assumption that it is difficult to misidentify an out-of-place pelican on a small lake. Wader wanderers included two **Snowy Egrets**, including one that remained at Dunkirk Harbor for 10 days in May; a **Tricolored Heron** at Tifft Nature Preserve; a **Cattle Egret** in Pomfret; and 15+ reports of **Sandhill Crane**. An immature **Summer Tanager** at Golden Hill SP. was a nice find for Jim Pawlicki during the B.O.S. May Count. The male **Dickcissel** originally found in late January at a feeder in Clarence Center remained until 19 April. Its plumage brightened considerably during its lengthy stay.

The B.O.S. April Count was held on the third Sunday of the month rather than the customary second Sunday because of the Easter holiday. The weather was cloudy and cool on the count day resulting from a cold front passage. A total of 154 species were tallied over the entire Region 1 and the portion of the B.O.S. Study Area in Ontario. There were 16 record high counts since the 1935 inception including: Great Egret (57), Bald Eagle (36), Upland Sandpiper (3), Iceland Gull (6), Lesser Black-backed Gull (4), Caspian Tern (194), Red-bellied Woodpecker (234), Yellow-bellied Sapsucker (283), Pileated Woodpecker (57), Blue-headed Vireo (14), Barn Swallow (250), House Wren (2), Winter Wren (42), Pine Warbler (18), Palm Warbler (9), and Louisiana Waterthrush (12). The later count date influenced many of these high counts. The Dickcissel in Clarence Center was a first count record. No record low counts were recorded.

The B.O.S. May Count was held on 17 May. The weather was cloudy, gusty, and cool. A total of 210 species was recorded over the B.O.S. Study Area. Maximum counts since 1935, inclusive of the Ontario portion, were attained for Mute Swan (21), Double-crested Cormorant (5,029), Great Egret (71), Bald

Eagle (24), Peregrine Falcon (9), Least Sandpiper (372), Bonaparte's Gull (2,711), Glaucous Gull (2), and Caspian Tern (241). Record low counts were attained for Common Moorhen (1) and Golden-winged Warbler (0) while Purple Martin (278) was the second lowest ever.

CONTRIBUTORS

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ABBREVIATIONS

AISP – Allegany SP CATT; AmSP – Amherst SP ERIE; BeSP – Beaver I SP ERIE; BOSAC – Buffalo Ornithological Society April Count – 19 April; BOSMC – Buffalo Ornithological Society May Count, 17 May; BuSP – Buckhorn Island SP ERIE; BWTP – Batavia Waste Water Treatment Plant GENE; ChauL – Chautauqua L CHAU; DH – Dunkirk Harbor; FMCSP – Four Mile Creek SP NIAG; FNSP – Fort Niagara SP NIAG; GHSP – Golden Hill SP NIAG; Hamburg HW – Hamburg Hawk Watch ERIE; INWR – Iroquois NWR GENE/ORLE; LBSP – Lakeside Beach SP ORLE; LESP – L Erie SP CHAU; MI – Motor I NR ERIE; NF – Niagara Falls NIAG; NR – Niagara R; OOWMA – Oak Orchard Wildlife Management Area GENE; PB – Point Breeze ORLE; PG – Point Gratiot CHAU; Ripley HW – Ripley Hawk Watch CHAU; SPNS – Sinking Ponds Nature Sanctuary ERIE; Tifft NP – Tifft Nature Preserve ERIE; TBNP – Times Beach Nature Preserve ERIE; TWMA – Tonawanda Wildlife Management Area GENE/NIAG; WFWMA – Watts Flats Wildlife Management Area CHAU; WTSP – Wilson-Tuscarora SP NIAG.

WHISTLING-DUCKS - VULTURES

Greater White-fronted Goose: 8 OOWMA 15 Mar (PY). unusually high count; only report.
Snow Goose: arr 7 Pomfret CHAU 10 Mar; 2 Porter NIAG, INWR 13 Mar; 2 OOWMA 15 Mar; max 22, 44 Yates ORLE 28 Mar, 2 Apr; last INWR 5 Apr.

Cackling Goose: arr SPNS 6 Mar (LH); 2 Lewiston NIAG, INWR 9 Mar; 5, 9 INWR 13, 17 Mar (PY, JP); 1, 3, 1 OOWMA 11, 15, 31 Mar; 2 Somerset NIAG 21 Mar; 3, 5 Yates ORLE 21 Mar, 2 Apr; 2 TWMA 22, 29 Mar; last INWR 6 Apr; good showing.

Mute Swan: 5 BeSP 3 Mar; TWMA 29 Mar; INWR 5 Apr, 2 May; only reports away from now regular 3-4 nest locations along L Ontario.

Trumpeter Swan: 2 N Harmony CHAU 10-12 Apr (JB), most recent sightings have occurred in CHAU.

Tundra Swan: 52 Rushford ALLE & Farmersville CATT 10 Mar; 85 Batavia GENE 12 Mar, 290 Hamburg HW, 40 TWMA 13 Mar; 215 Clymer CHAU, 66 Silver Creek CHAU 14 Mar; max 300 TWMA 19 Mar (RSO); last 106 BOSAC.

Wood Duck: arr Porter NIAG 7 Mar.

Gadwall: arr 10 INWR & 3 Alexander GENE 8 Mar.

EURASIAN WIGEON: OOWMA 17 Mar (CN); Alexander GENE 21, 22 Mar (DB, ED, JM); INWR 4-25 Apr, 2-3 May (DG, mob); OOWMA 25 Apr (PY); annual in spring in recent years.

Eurasian x Am. Wigeon: m INWR 11 Apr (JP!), best described as hybrid.

Am. Wigeon: max 300 TWMA 11 Mar.

Blue-winged Teal: arr 2 Alexander GENE 12 Mar.

N. Shoveler: arr 2 INWR 8 Mar; max 29 INWR 11 Apr.

N. Pintail: max 750 INWR 13 Mar (PY, RSA); 189 INWR 2 May (WD, BP, PH), good count for date.

Canvasback: max 8000 NR 1 Mar (D&DS); arr 2 BWWTP 8 Mar.

Redhead: 72 Celeron ChauL 4 Mar; arr 11 TWMA, BWWTP 8 Mar; 2 NF 7 May.

Ring-necked Duck: arr 9 Newstead ERIE, BWWTP 8 Mar; 500 TWMA 13 Mar; 81 Tifft NP 1 Apr; 3 BWWTP 6, 14 May.

Greater Scaup: max 1582 DH 10 Mar (DN); 12 NF 7 May.

Lesser Scaup: arr 18 BWWTP 11 Mar.

HARLEQUIN DUCK: f NF 7 May (JP, WW), second May record.

Surf Scoter: FNSP 13 Mar; 2 TBNP 15 Mar; 1, 2 Wilson NIAG 22 Mar, 5 Apr; 3 Buffalo Harbor ERIE 28 Mar; 3 FNSP 5 Apr; last Wilson NIAG 25 May (WD!).

White-winged Scoter: 2 Celeron ChauL 3 Mar; 10 DH 13 Mar, only reports away from L Ontario; last 2 Wilson NIAG 31 May.

Black Scoter: FNSP 1 Mar; 2 PB 21 Mar; only reports.

Long-tailed Duck: arr 2 INWR 19 Mar; 2 Oakfield GENE 22 Mar; S Dayton CATT 29 Mar; last 5 Olcott NIAG 29 May.

Bufflehead: arr TWMA 8 Mar; last 20 BOSMC.

Com. Goldeneye: arr BWWTP, TWMA 8 Mar; Tifft NP 3, 9 May; last 3 BOSMC.

Hooded Merganser: arr 4 Wilson NIAG 6 Mar; max 48 Bethany GENE 11 Mar.

Ruddy Duck: arr BWWTP 8 Mar; max 36, 66, 60 BWWTP 31 Mar, 6 Apr, 3 May; 7 INWR 25 Apr.

Red-throated Loon: 3 FMCSP 7 Mar; 13 GHSP 21 Mar; max 105 Wilson NIAG 5 Apr; Celeron ChauL 28 Apr (JB); OOWMA 3 May (WW); last Wilson NIAG 25 May.

Com. Loon: arr Shadigee ORLE 21 Mar; ChauL 23 May; Wilson NIAG 31 May.

Pied-billed Grebe: arr BeSP 11 Mar.

Horned Grebe: arr Alexander GENE 10 Mar.

Red-necked Grebe: 5 BuSP 8 Mar; max 291 Somerset NIAG to PB 21 Mar (WD); 3 DH 21 Mar; INWR 22 Mar; last 23 BOSAC.

AM. WHITE PELICAN: 2 ChauL 25-29 Mar (ML, JB, BS, mob), earliest spring report; Cuba L ALLE 22 Apr (BeC), one day only.

Double-crested Cormorant: 192 MI 13 Apr; 138 + 39 n Strawberry I NR 29 Apr; Alma ALLE 15 May (RR, JeL), unusual location.

Am. Bittern: arr INWR 29 Mar (PY!), early; Alden ERIE 27 Apr (JM); TWMA 3, 25 May; Darien GENE 3 May (JM); Tifft NP 3 May; 3 INWR 9 May; only reports.

Least Bittern: arr Tifft NP 2, 3 May (DM); INWR 23, 30 May; only reports.

Great Blue Heron: max 99 + 92 n MI 29 Apr.

Great Egret: arr Hamburg ERIE 9 Mar (WW, JP), earliest ever by 11 days; BeSP 25 Mar; Conewango CATT 28 Mar; 2 MI 30 Mar; 2 ChauL 1 Apr; Jamestown CHAU 27 Apr; 66 + 36 n MI 29 Apr; max 106 MI 12 May; 2 Westfield CHAU 15 May.

Snowy Egret: BeSP 28 Apr (DS); DH 5-15 May (MaH, DN, mob), rare but regular in spring.

TRICOLORED HERON: Tifft NP 24 May (BE), rare.

CATTLE EGRET: Pomfret CHAU 3 May (TM, DN), rare.

Green Heron: arr Pomfret CHAU 13 Apr.

Black-crowned Night-Heron: 8 Strawberry I NR 9 Mar; max 150 MI 13 Apr; TWMA 30 May.

BLACK VULTURE: 1, 1 Hamburg HW 13, 23 Mar (JP, MiH; WW); Ripley HW 14 Mar; now nearly annual in spring.

Turkey Vulture: arr Amherst ERIE 4 Mar; 2184 Ripley HW 24 Mar; max 2460 Hamburg HW 2 Apr.

HAWKS - ALCIDS

Osprey: arr TWMA, Allegheny Res CATT 28 Mar; 2 + n Tonawanda NR 24 Apr, new nesting

location, 2nd on the NR; max 17 Ripley HW 24 Apr.

Bald Eagle: too numerous to report all nesting locations; 8 N Harmony CHAU 11 Apr (JB); 36 BOSAC; 8 INWR & vicinity 30 May (DG, VR); max 15 Ripley HW 13 May; 24 BOSMC.

N. Goshawk: arr Yates ORLE 28 Mar (JP, BK); Newfane NIAG 24 Apr (BP, WD!); only reports away from hawkwatches.

Red-shouldered Hawk: arr 2 Orchard Park ERIE 1 Mar.

Broad-winged Hawk: arr 2 Ripley HW 13 Apr; max 6360 Ripley HW 24 Apr.

Rough-legged Hawk: max 3 S Dayton CATT 1 Mar; 3 Dunkirk Airport CHAU 13 Apr; last 6 BOSMC.

Golden Eagle: Hamburg HW 13 Mar (JP, MiH!); Ripley HW 16 Mar; im SPNS 27 Apr (LH); only reports.

Merlin: 2 continued at SUNY Buffalo thru 20 Mar; arr Hamburg HW 21 Mar; Yates ORLE 28 Mar; 4 BOSAC; 2 INWR 25 Apr; Carlton ORLE 25 Apr; Eden ERIE 27 Apr; Salamanca CATT 24 May (TB!); last Olcott NIAG 27 May (JP!).

Peregrine Falcon: arr Hamburg HW 16 Mar; 2 + n SUNY Buffalo 21 Mar, new nesting location; Buffalo Central Terminal ERIE 6 Apr (MZ); numerous reports from nesting locations and elsewhere.

Virginia Rail: arr TWMA 29 Mar (PY!), early.

Sora: arr BuSP 9 Apr; 2 Cuba ALLE 15 May.

Com. Moorhen: arr INWR 5 Apr (CH!), early.

Am. Coot: arr TWMA 15 Mar; max 103 INWR 26 Apr.

Sandhill Crane: arr Napoli CATT 14 Mar (ME); 2 Buffalo ERIE 22 Mar (BH); Amherst ERIE 25 Mar; 2 Yates ORLE 2 Apr (WD, BP); 2 INWR 4 Apr; 2 Sinclairville CHAU 6 Apr (VR); 2 Tiff NP 9 Apr (JP, RSA); 2 Hamburg HW 13 Apr (WW); 2 Pomfret CHAU 18 Apr (JG); 2 BOSAC; 4 Carlton ORLE 24 Apr (BP, WD); 2 WFWMA 10 May (JB); LESP 13 May (DN); 2 Varysburg WYOM 15 May (TS); 2 BOSMC; good showing.

Black-bellied Plover: no reports.

Semipalmented Plover: arr Sherman CHAU 1 May, earliest ever; max 32 TWMA 14 May.

Killdeer: arr 3 DH 6 Mar.

Greater Yellowlegs: arr INWR 27 Mar.

Lesser Yellowlegs: arr Batavia GENE 10, 12 Mar (ED, DB!, photo), earliest ever by two weeks; max 151 TWMA 3 May.

Solitary Sandpiper: arr Yates ORLE 24 Apr; max 12 TWMA 2 May.

Willet: 28, 17 Bemus Pt ChauL 30 Apr, 1 May (PB, KV, BS), earliest spring report, good count, rare.

Spotted Sandpiper: arr 5 BOSAC.

Upland Sandpiper: arr 3 BOSAC; BOSMC; only reports.

Ruddy Turnstone: arr TWMA 9 May (CM), early; Wilson NIAG 27 May; 4 BWWT, 2 Buffalo Harbor ERIE, 2 TWMA 31 May (JP, DW); only reports.

Semipalmented Sandpiper: arr 5 TWMA 13 May; max 20 Olcott NIAG 29 May.

Least Sandpiper: arr 2 Sherman CHAU 30 Apr; max 158 Yates ORLE 19 May.

White-rumped Sandpiper: arr 1, 1, 3 TWMA 23, 30, 31 May (WD, DW); only reports.

Pectoral Sandpiper: arr FMCSP 28 Mar; last TWMA 23 May.

Purple Sandpiper: NF 22, 29 Mar, 13 Apr (WW, DW, PY), traditional location for spring reports.

Dunlin: arr Sherman CHAU 1 May; max 40 TWMA 25 May.

Short-billed Dowitcher: arr 2 TWMA 14 May; 3 Conewango WMA CATT 15 May (TB); last TWMA 23 May; only reports.

Dowitcher species: 6 Sherman CHAU 1 May; 3 TWMA 2, 3 May (AG, WW!), distant but considered to be probable Long-billed.

Wilson's Snipe: arr Dunkirk Airport CHAU 18 Mar; 12 AISP 21 Mar; 30 Randolph CATT 28 Mar; 25 Lancaster ERIE 7 Apr.

Am. Woodcock: arr Pomfret CHAU 12 Mar.

Little Gull: 7, 11 Lewiston NR 5, 28 Mar; 2 Buffalo NR 9, 13 Apr; max 43 FNSP 10 Apr (JP, WD); 2 Wilson NIAG 28 Apr; 2 Lewiston NR 29 May (JP!); 2 FNSP 29 May (JP!), late.

BLACK-HEADED GULL: Lewiston NR 5 Apr (JP, WD); FNSP 29-30 May (JP!), late.

Bonaparte's Gull: max 5784 FNSP 10 Apr (JP, WD); 300 Lewiston NR 21 May (JP); 250 FNSP 29 May, good counts for late in season.

Iceland Gull: INWR 15 Mar (WD, AG), rare inland; max 8, 8 NF 28 Mar, 16 Apr; 2, 2 Porter NIAG 26, 29 Mar; 2 Lewiston NR 5 Apr; Wilson NIAG 27-29 May (JP! WW!), late.

Lesser Black-backed Gull: 1, 1 INWR 13, 15 Mar (PY; WD, AG); OOWMA 15 Mar (WD, AG), rare inland; 3 Porter NIAG 26 Mar; Silver Creek CHAU 13, 14 Apr (DN); max 6 NF 16 Apr; 2 Wilson NIAG 28 Apr; last NF 21 May.

Glaucous Gull: FMCSP 7, 28 Mar; 2 Porter NIAG 29 Mar; Silver Creek CHAU 12, 14 Apr; WTSP 28 Apr; last Wilson NIAG 27-29 May (JP! WW!), late.

Great Black-backed Gull: ChauL 30 May, unusual location for date.

Caspian Tern: arr 5 DH 7 Apr; max 271, 175 Wilson NIAG 28 Apr, 16 May; 6 ChauL 1 May; 67 DH 2 May.

Com. Tern: arr 2 Lewiston NR 6 Apr (BC); 10 ChauL 1 May; 84 Wilson NIAG 4 May (WD); 19 TWMA 14 May; 180 Lewiston NR 21 May; 150 FNSP 29 May.

Forster's Tern: arr Tonawanda NR 24 Apr (JP, DG); 2 BeSP 30 Apr (DS); only reports.

Black Tern: arr 8 INWR 2 May; max 30 INWR 13 May (JM); FNSP 29 May (JP, WW); N Harmony CHAU 30 May (JB, BS).

PIGEONS – WOODPECKERS

Black-billed Cuckoo: arr 3 Alma, 2 Willing ALLE 15 May.

Yellow-billed Cuckoo: arr Bethany GENE, Alexander GENE 16 May.

Snowy Owl: NF Airport NIAG 8-14 Mar (CR), only report.

Long-eared Owl: FM CSP 21 Mar; WTSP 27 Mar; Hartland NIAG 28 Mar; only reports.

Short-eared Owl: Royalton NIAG 11 Mar; 4 Cambria NIAG 12 Mar; 3 Hartland NIAG 28 Mar; 2 Darien GENE 1, 7 Apr (JM); Hamburg HW 13 Apr; last 3 Porter NIAG 18 Apr (VR), courtship behavior observed but no sightings followed.

BOREAL OWL: WTSP 27 Mar (BP!, mob), 5th regional report.

N. Saw-whet Owl: 22 Mar-1 Apr WTSP; Tifft NP 15 May (CN); TWMA 23 May (WD, BP); only reports.

Com. Nighthawk: arr Clarence ERIE 16 May; 2 BOSMC; Orchard Park ERIE 18 May; Wilson NIAG 22 May; Buffalo ERIE 29 May; only reports.

Whip-poor-will: LBSP ORLE 25 Apr (WD), only report.

Chimney Swift: arr 15 INWR 9 Apr (DG, VR), earliest ever.

Ruby-throated Hummingbird: arr Alma ALLE 29 Apr (HL), ties earliest ever.

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: Silver Creek CHAU 1 Mar; Bond Lake NIAG 8 Mar; arr Reinstein Preserve ERIE 21 Mar; Alexander GENE 22 Mar.

Red-headed Woodpecker: Newfane NIAG 28 Mar; BOSAC; arr Buffalo ERIE 28 Apr; Oakfield GENE 2, 13 May; 2 FNSP 3 May; 2 LBSP 6, 18 May; Wilson NIAG 16, 18 May; 20 BOSMC; Olcott NIAG 27 May; only reports.

FLYCATCHERS - WAXWINGS

Olive-sided Flycatcher: arr BOSMC, only report.

E. Wood-Pewee: arr LESP 13 May.

Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: arr 2 BOSMC; AmSP 21 May; Perrysburg CHAU 25 May; Pomfret CHAU 31 May; only reports.

Acadian Flycatcher: arr INWR 6 May (BrC), 2nd earliest ever; Pomfret CHAU 15 May; Newfane NIAG 27 May (JP), migrant; Wilson NIAG 28 May (WD, BP), migrant; rarely identified in migration away from breeding locations.

Alder Flycatcher: arr 2 BOSMC.

Willow Flycatcher: arr Sheridan CHAU 16 May.

Least Flycatcher: arr Tifft NP 25 Apr.

E. Phoebe: arr Grand I ERIE 24 Mar.

Gr. Crested Flycatcher: arr Tifft NP 26 Apr.

E. Kingbird: arr Darien Lakes SP GENE 28 Apr.

N. Shrike: last Conewango CATT 8 Apr.

White-eyed Vireo: arr 2, 1 Tifft NP 30 Apr, 3 May (WW, DS); Wilson NIAG 3 May (WD); Sheridan CHAU 17 May; Cherry Creek CHAU 21 May (JeL).

Yellow-throated Vireo: arr Buffalo ERIE 28 Apr.

Blue-headed Vireo: arr 14 BOSAC.

Warbling Vireo: arr AmSP 25 Apr.

Philadelphia Vireo: arr Tifft NP 9 May; Wilson NIAG 16 May; 14 BOSMC; 3 AmSP 18 May; INWR 24 May; Newfane NIAG 27 May; only reports.

Red-eyed Vireo: arr BeSP 1 May (DS).

Com. Raven: 2, 1 Colden ERIE 15 Mar, 25 May; Concord ERIE 17 Apr; Carroll CHAU 24 May; only reports outside ALLE, CATT besides BOS counts.

Purple Martin: arr Tifft NP 14 Apr.

Tree Swallow: arr INWR 15 Mar; BWWTP 16 Mar.

N. Rough-winged Swallow: arr 2 Tifft NP 9 Apr.

Bank Swallow: arr Tillman Rd WMA ERIE 10 Apr (RSal!), early.

Cliff Swallow: arr 2 BOSAC.

Barn Swallow: arr Tonawanda ERIE 2 Apr.

Carolina Wren: 19 BOSAC and 15 BOSMC; up slightly from last year's count totals.

House Wren: arr 2 BOSAC.

Winter Wren: arr 2 Tifft NP 1 Apr.

Marsh Wren: arr 3 Tifft NP 3 May.

Golden-crowned Kinglet: arr WTSP 23 Mar.

Ruby-crowned Kinglet: arr Tifft NP 5 Apr.

Blue-gray Gnatcatcher: arr Tifft NP 25 Apr.

Veery: arr Carroll CHAU 2 May.

Gray-cheeked Thrush: arr Tonawanda ERIE 15 May; four other reports.

Swainson's Thrush: arr 3 Buffalo ERIE 27 Apr (DGI); AmSP 28 Apr; early.

Hermit Thrush: arr Tifft NP 31 Mar.

Wood Thrush: arr Wilson NIAG 25 Apr.

Gray Catbird: arr Houghton ALLE 16 Apr.

Brown Thrasher: arr 21 BOSAC.

Am. Pipit: arr 75 Yates ORLE 2 Apr; max 100 S. Dayton CATT 4 Apr.

WARBLERS

Blue-winged Warbler: arr WTSP, PG 26 Apr (WD, MC!; DW); slightly early.

Golden-winged Warbler: arr AmSP 25 Apr (SM), earliest ever; Sheridan CHAU 27 Apr (DNI); Wilson NIAG 6 May (BP, WD); WTSP 6 May (BP); Holland ERIE 15 May (CN), with some 'extra yellow'; only reports.

"Brewster's" Warbler: arr Alexander GENE 4 May; Pomfret CHAU 6 May; 2 INWR 23 May; only reports.

"Lawrence's" Warbler: AmSP 15 May (JP!); Sheridan CHAU 19 May (R&CB); this hybrid form is still rare.

Tennessee Warbler: arr 2 Wilson NIAG, FMCSP, Williamsville ERIE 8 May.

Orange-crowned Warbler: arr BeSP 4 May (DS); 2 BOSMC; only reports.

Nashville Warbler: arr Andover ALLE, 2 PB 25 Apr.

N. Parula: arr PG 26 Apr (DW); 2 AmSP 27 Apr (MM!), early.

Yellow Warbler: arr INWR 24 Apr.

Chestnut-sided Warbler: arr WFWMA 26 Apr (JB); 2 Wilson NIAG (BP!) 27 Apr; early.

Magnolia Warbler: arr Buffalo ERIE 27 Apr (DG!), early.

Cape May Warbler: arr Tiffet NP 1 May.

Black-throated Blue Warbler: arr Sheridan CHAU 30 Apr.

Yellow-rumped Warbler: Orchard Park ERIE 15 Mar (MZ); arr Alden ERIE 11 Apr.

Black-throated Green Warbler: arr Sheridan CHAU 24 Apr.

Blackburnian Warbler: arr 2 Wilson NIAG, SPNS 27 Apr.

Pine Warbler: arr 18 BOSAC; 4 Chestnut Ridge P ERIE 10 May; Wilson NIAG 25-31 May; 2 Somerset NIAG 27 May.

Prairie Warbler: arr AISP 26 Apr (PC); 3 Cherry Creek CHAU 20 May (JeL); AISP 24 May.

Palm Warbler: arr 9 BOSAC; last LESP 18 May.

Bay-breasted Warbler: arr Silver Creek CHAU 6 May.

Blackpoll Warbler: arr PG 2 May (DW), early; Tiffet NP 9 May.

Cerulean Warbler: arr PG 2 May (DW); Wilson NIAG 13 May (BP); Alexander GENE 24 May (KF).

Black-and-white Warbler: arr Sheridan CHAU 25 Apr.

Am. Redstart: arr Shelby GENE 2 May.

Prothonotary Warbler: arr 1, 3 TWMA 9, 23 May; INWR 24 May (JeL).

WORM-EATING WARBLER: BeSP 12 May (DS), only report.

Ovenbird: arr PG 26 Apr.

N. Waterthrush: arr AmSP, Tiffet NP 25 Apr.

Louisiana Waterthrush: arr 12 BOSAC; max 4 Chestnut Ridge P ERIE 10 May.

Mourning Warbler: arr Tiffet NP 13 May.

C. Yellowthroat: arr Williamsville ERIE 28 Apr.

Hooded Warbler: arr AmSP 27 Apr.

Wilson's Warbler: arr LESP, AmSP 13 May.

Canada Warbler: arr Buffalo ERIE 2 May, early.

TANAGERS – WEAVERS

SUMMER TANAGER: imm m GHSP 17-18 May (JP!, GC!), rare.

Scarlet Tanager: arr AmSP 27 Apr (RSa! PY!), early.

E. Towhee: 2 Colden ERIE, Silver Creek CHAU 26 Mar.

Am. Tree Sparrow: 2 Cassadaga CHAU & 2 AmSP 22 Apr; last Attica WYOM 17 May (Jol.), late.

Chipping Sparrow: arr Wilson NIAG 1 Apr.

Clay-colored Sparrow: WTSP 16 May (JP!, WDI), only report.

Field Sparrow: arr Tiffet NP 28 Mar.

Vesper Sparrow: arr Wilson NIAG 5 Apr; 4, 4 N. Harmony CHAU 6, 10 Apr (JB); 3 Pomfret CHAU 7 Apr; Belmont ALLE 12 Apr; 4 BOSAC.

Savannah Sparrow: arr Busti CHAU 6 Apr.

Grasshopper Sparrow: arr 2 Tillman Rd WMA ERIE 6 May; 2 BOSMC; 2 Artpark SP NIAG 24 May (BP, WD); only reports.

Henslow's Sparrow: no reports.

Fox Sparrow: arr AISP 21 Mar; max 10 Tiffet NP 17 Apr; last 2 BOSMC.

Lincoln's Sparrow: arr PB 25 Apr (JP), early; last Tiffet NP 28 May.

Swamp Sparrow: arr INWR 5 Apr.

White-throated Sparrow: last Wilson NIAG 30 May.

White-crowned Sparrow: Porter NIAG 28 Mar; arr Tiffet NP 9 Apr.

Lapland Longspur: 2 Yates ORLE 28 Mar; 7 Somerset NIAG 2 Apr; max 60 Yates ORLE 2 Apr; only reports.

Snow Bunting: max 400 Eagle WYOM 10 Mar; last 3 Eden ERIE 18 Mar.

Rose-breasted Grosbeak: arr Collins ERIE 25 Apr.

Indigo Bunting: arr NF 27 Apr (DR), early; Alma ALLE 29 Apr (HL); Elma ERIE 30 Apr.

DICKCISSEL: Clarence ERIE thru 19 Apr (DA), continued since late January.

Bobolink: arr Pomfret CHAU 25 Apr (DN!); Batavia GENE 27 Apr (JM!); early.

E. Meadowlark: arr Tiff NP 14 Mar.

Rusty Blackbird: arr 15 Sheridan CHAU 8 Mar; max 165 S. Dayton CATT 9 Mar (DN); 40 Clarence ERIE 14 Mar; 110 INWR 4 Apr; last 3 BOSMC.

Brown-headed Cowbird: arr 2 Silver Creek CHAU 8 Mar.

Orchard Oriole: arr Collins ERIE 25 Apr (GR); Silver Creek CHAU 29 Apr (DN); Eden ERIE 5 May; 4 Varysburg WYOM 15 May (TS); 2 Wilson NIAG 16 May; 2 Pomfret CHAU 31 May.

Baltimore Oriole: arr Sheridan CHAU, Collins ERIE, Orchard Park ERIE 26 Apr.

Purple Finch: 327 BOSAC; 23 Silver Creek CHAU 23 Apr (DN), at feeder; 20 Wilson NIAG 27 Apr (WD), at feeder; good numbers around in mid to late Apr; 197 BOSMC.

Red Crossbill: 21 ALLE BOSMC.

White-winged Crossbill: 2 Fredonia CHAU 1-12 Mar; 26 Rushford ALLE 10 Mar; 25 Eggertsville ERIE 22 Mar; 15 AmSP 30 Mar; 36 Alfred ALLE 3 Apr; Wilson NIAG 6 Apr; Ward ALLE 18 Apr; 9 BOSAC; 2 Williamsville ERIE 21 Apr; flock Wales ERIE 16 May (GL); last 6 Olcott NIAG 27 May (JP); sightings decreased considerably after March.

Com. Redpoll: 43 BuSP 6 Mar; 40 Alexander GENE 12 Mar; Silver Creek CHAU 10 Apr; 58 BOSAC; Wilson NIAG 21 Apr; last Williamsville ERIE 23 Apr; few reports after March.

HOARY REDPOLL: Holland ERIE thru 3 Mar (CN!); BuSP 6 Mar (WW!); rare.

Pine Siskin: 112 banded Alfred ALLE 8-31 Mar (EB); 1409 BOSAC; max 100 Youngstown NIAG 26 Apr; 58 Eden ERIE 4 May; 6 Jamestown CHAU, 2 Williamsville ERIE 31 May; well reported until late May.

Evening Grosbeak: 5 ALLE BOSMC; only report.

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REGION 2—GENESEE

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March was probably best remembered for its lack of snowfall; there was measurable snow on only two days totaling 0.5", ranking it in the top ten for all time lowest snowfall. This total was 11.9" below normal. Precipitation was about average at 3.25", 0.26" above normal. Several storm systems brought rain to the Region during the second week, increasing the risk of flooding. Many creeks and streams ran quite high. The temperature took its usual March roller coaster ride. The month started out very cold but quickly changed to a stretch of warm weather with above normal temperatures. There was a brief period of cold during the middle of the month, but things warmed up again, with a high of 61° on the 25th. The average temperature of 25.4°F was 1.1° above normal. March arrival dates were pretty much normal. April was a fairly quiet weather month. The only significant features were a winter-like start and a summer-like ending. The average temperature of 46.6° was 1.3° warmer than normal. There was one sub-freezing day on the 7th and a high of 85° on the 27th. Precipitation was 0.55" below normal at 2.20". The bulk fell during the first week of the month. There was a 12-day stretch with no measurable precipitation. We quite often

experience significant snow in April, but this year's total was a mere 1.8". April also experienced 60% of possible sunshine as opposed to the normal 50%. There was a significant number of early arrivals during April. Many arrived with a warm pulse 24-27 April. May was generally a pleasant month. The average temperature of 56.8° was about as close to the norm of 57.0° as you can get. Precipitation totaled 3.3", 0.48" above normal. The only day of significant rainfall was the 28th, which was accompanied by thunderstorms. 66% of the possible sunshine was recorded during May. Even though it was a pleasant month, it did not produce a particularly good migration from a birding standpoint. There were very few days with optimum conditions for good flights. The nights were cool and the days often dominated by cool lake breezes. This was especially true along the Lake Ontario shore. One observer described the May migration for many species as "pathetic", categorizing it overall as one of the worst May migrations ever.

Waterfowl again arrived early this year and passed through rather quickly. The only plusses were increased reports of Ross's Goose and Cackling Goose. There were some good concentrations of Canvasback and Redhead on Braddock Bay, but they were relatively short lived. Puddle duck numbers were poor, while divers were just okay. Am. White Pelican put in an appearance this spring. Two birds were on Braddock Bay in early April, and a single bird spent 12 days moving between Braddock Bay and Long Pond later in the month. These occurrences may possibly be tied with the two birds seen in late March to the southwest in Region 1.

Dave Tetlow and Josh Lawrey manned the Braddock Bay Hawk Watch this year. Conditions for good hawk flights were few and far between. Black Vulture put in its now annual appearance, with a single bird at Braddock Bay on 16 May. The highlight for the hawk watch was the multiple Swainson's Hawks, including a dark morph bird banded on 9 May at the Braddock Bay Raptor Research station by Dan Niven. Few observers reported much in the line of marsh birds. However, there were two King Rail reports during May. The first was from the Northern Montezuma Wetlands Complex and the other from Brush Creek in Hamlin. The latter location has produced this species several times historically. Common Moorhen numbers continued to be low. It was another good year for Sandhill Crane, with numerous reports from Braddock Bay and the Northern Montezuma Wetlands Complex. They have bred at the latter site for a number of years now. This year's crane sightings include a "**Lesser**" **Sandhill Crane** observed at Braddock Bay by Dave Tetlow. The shorebird flight was okay, but certainly not great. The best flights occurred at the end of May, with coverage at the Hamlin Beach Lakewatch by Andy Guthrie, Robert Spahn, William Symonds, and Dave Tetlow. There were some interesting, if not exceptional, sightings. Am Golden-Plover, Red Knot, and Sanderling were reported, species which are not seen every spring. Single day counts of 134 Whimbrel, 25 Red Knots, 528 Semipalmated Sandpiper, and 335 Dunlin were tallied in the last days of May at Hamlin Beach. Observers commented on the poor showing for Short-billed Dowitcher. There were few gull and tern

highlights, yet there were some lowlights—Bonaparte's Gull numbers poor, no Little Gull reports, and no reports of Black Tern in the Region.

A Eurasian Collared-Dove was reported in Hamlin. There was some discussion around whether it was the same individual that had been reported in Parma from last September into the winter. Recently observers have found a pair near the Hamlin site plus the bird still at the Hamlin site; more to follow in the summer report. A May Snowy Owl report came from the TNC's Rush Oak Openings Preserve in southern Monroe County. The owl migration was poor this spring. The number of sightings of Long-eared and Northern Saw-whet Owls at the historical stopover site along Manitou Beach Road was down. The usual few Whip-poor-wills were reported, including birds reported from Bergen Swamp where they have been unrecorded for a number of years. Common Nighthawk numbers reverted back to a maximum of only 85 individuals in late May after last year's big counts.

Generally low numbers characterized the passerine migration, yet there were some plusses. Dave Tetlow again picked two good flight days to do intensive counting of migrant passserines—14 May at the West Spit of Braddock Bay and 16 May from Parking Lot #4 at Hamlin Beach SP. There were some excellent counts for many species on those days. Generally, there were very few days with really good conditions for migration and birds on the ground for birders to find the next day. Some other highlights included a good, typical late-season push of Yellow-bellied Flycatchers, multiple reports of White-eyed Vireo in May, 130 Cliff Swallows on 14 May at Braddock Bay, and the nearly annual Dickcissel report. Fish Crows were observed regularly on the University of Rochester campus, a new location for the Region. The thrush flight was poor, as illustrated by very low numbers of Gray-cheeked Thrushes and not much better numbers for other migrant species.

Warblers had an interesting April, with a new Regional high for the month of 21 species reported. The overall picture, however, was mediocre. Orange-crowned Warbler, Yellow Warbler, Am. Redstart, Common Yellowthroat, Hooded Warbler, and Wilson's Warbler were observed in okay numbers, while Golden-winged, Yellow-rumped, Blackpoll, and Black-and-white Warbler counts were low. This was also true for Ovenbird and Mourning Warbler.

Clay-colored Sparrow continued its presence in the Region, though with fewer birds reported from the recent breeding sites. White-throated and White-crowned Sparrow numbers were down. Brewer's Blackbird was reported again, a nearly annual occurrence now. Rusty Blackbird numbers were okay, but they continue to be a species of concern.

The finch flight was one of the best in recent history. The White-winged Crossbill invasion of the winter continued into spring, as did the incursion of Pine Siskins, with counts of 1000+ in April and May for the latter species. Common Redpolls were present during the early portion of the season, with a flock of about 300 individuals continuing at Hamlin Beach. Multiple Hoary Redpolls accompanied this flock, with up to 10 individuals observed by Dave Tetlow and Richard Crossley on 1 March, and at least one "*Greenland*" race individual carefully described by Chris Wood on that date.

The March species total was 140 with the 10-year average being 130.8. The early arrivals of April pushed the month's species total to 207, with the 10-year average being only 181.1. May was only one species below the 10-year average at 229. The year-to-date total was 2.2 species below the 10-year average at 259.

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ABBREVIATIONS

A – Auburn Trail, T Victor MONR; b – banded; BB – Braddock Bay MONR; BBBO – Braddock Bay Bird Observatory; BR – Broadway WAYN; CH – Cobbs Hill, City of Rochester MONR; CL – Conesus Lake LIVI; DE – Durand-Eastman Park MONR; E – T Elba GENE; EL – East Lakeshore MONR/WAYN; G – T Greece MONR; GE – T Geneseo LIVI; H – T Hamlin, MONR; HB – Hamlin Beach SP MONR; HI – Highland Park, City of Rochester MONR; HP – Hogan Pt, T Greece; HS – Huckleberry Swamp, WAYN; I – T Irondequoit MONR; ICW – Island Cottage Woods, T Greece MONR; K – T Kendall, ORLE; LW – Letchworth SP LIVI/WYOM; M – Manitou Beach area MONR; MP – Mendon Ponds Park MONR; NR – Nations Road, T Avon LIVI; OB – Ontario Beach, Charlotte MONR; PA – T Parma, MONR; PB – Point Breeze ORLE; PE – T Perinton MONR; R – City of Rochester MONR; RO –

Rush-Oak Openings LIVI; S – T Savannah WAYN; SP – Sodus Point WAYN; TC – Twin Cedars Environmental Area, T Avon LIVI; W – T of Webster MONR; WL – West Lakeshore MONR/ORLE.

WHISTLING-DUCKS - VULTURES

Snow Goose: max 4000 S 8 Mar; last 1 BB 17 Apr.

Ross's Goose: arr 1 S 8 Mar (LL); 1-2 H 10-11 Mar (RS, mob); 2 S 13 Mar (LL); 1 DEC Pond, T Lima 16 Mar (MW).

Canada Goose: max 25,000 H 10 Mar.

Cackling Goose: total 37 sev loc all Mar; max 9 HB 19 Mar (WS); 1 Byron 9 Apr (WS); 1 BB 25 Apr (DT).

Trumpeter Swan: max 12 S 1 Mar (LL).

Tundra Swan: max 2100+ Groveland Flats, LIVI, 14 Mar (JK); last 1 BB 24-25 Apr.

Eurasian Wigeon: arr 1m CL 22-23 Mar (LG, DH, SS, mob); 1 m S 28 Mar (TL, BW, SB); 1 m S 2 Apr (JSI).

Blue-winged Teal: arr 1m G 4 Mar (KG).

N. Shoveler: arr 1m S 7 Mar.

N. Pintail: max 25,000 S 15 Mar (R&SS); last 1 S 18 Apr.

Green-winged Teal: arr 2 BB 6 Mar.

Canvasback: last 2 BB 1 Apr.

Redhead: last 1 DE 25 May.

Ring-necked Duck: last 1 H 9 May

Greater Scaup: last 1 BB 2 May.

Lesser Scaup: last 1 BB 20 May.

Surf Scoter: last 3 HB 12 May.

White-winged Scoter: max 1250 HB 12 Mar.

Black Scoter: last 4 HB 10 May.

Long-tailed Duck: max 599 HB 5 May.

Bufflehead: last 2 G 16 May.

Barrow's Goldeneye: 1m PB 1-23 Mar (mob); 1f W 5 Mar (GC); 1m CL 21, 23 Mar (JK, et al.).

Com. Goldeneye: last 2 HB 24 Apr.

Red-breasted Merganser: max 2500 HB 5 May.

Ruddy Duck: arr 5 BB 18 Mar; last 1 TC 4-11 May.

Ruffed Grouse: 1 T Ontario, WAYN 15 Mar (SS), first report of the year.

Red-necked Grebe: max 30 WL 27 Mar; last 1 HB 20 May.

AMERICAN WHITE PELICAN: 2 BB 8-9 Apr (JLaw, mob); 1 G-BB 3-14 May (FL, mob).

Double-crested Cormorant: max 302 HB 24 Apr.

Am. Bittern: arr 1 BB 2 Apr, early.

Least Bittern: arr 1 G 4 May.

Great Egret: arr 1 G 31 Mar (KS).

Green Heron: arr 1 BB, DE 27 Apr.

Turkey Vulture: max 3846 BB 2 Apr.

BLACK VULTURE: 1 BB 16 May (MT).

HAWKS – ALCIDS

Osprey: arr 1 S 14 Mar (DK), record early; max 25 BB 27 Apr.

Bald Eagle: max 27 BB 16 May.

N. Harrier: max 59 25 Apr.

Sharp-shinned Hawk: max 1104 BB 25 Apr.

Cooper's Hawk: max 73 BB 2 Apr.

N. Goshawk: 1 G 2 Mar; 1 BB 17, 28, 29 Mar; total 19 BB all Apr; 1 BB 16 May.

Red-shouldered Hawk: arr 3 BB 14 Mar; max 209 BB 17 Mar.

Broad-winged Hawk: arr 252 BB 18 Apr; 5002 BB 24 APR; max 10,284 BB 25 Apr; 6628 BB 27 Apr.

Swainson's Hawk: 1 imm lt morph BB 27 Apr (JL, DT); 1b BB 9 May (DNI), imm drk morph; 1 BB 9 May (DT), imm lt morph; 1 BB 12 May (DT).

Red-tailed Hawk: max 294 BB 9 Apr.

Rough-legged Hawk: max 20 BB 17 Apr, low; last 1 H 20 May, late.

Golden Eagle: arr 1 BB 11 Mar; max 5 BB 25 Mar (DT); total 24 BB all Apr; 1 imm BB 16 May (MT); 1 BB 19 May (DT).

Am. Kestrel: max 96 BB 25 Apr.

Merlin: total 4 sev loc all Mar; total 15 sev loc all Apr; max 11 BB 16 May.

Peregrine Falcon: total 7 sev loc all Mar; total 6 sev loc all Apr.

Virginia Rail: arr 1 S 5 Apr.

Sora: arr 1 Taylor Marsh, ONTA 2 May.

King Rail: 1 S 20 May (DT, KG, GL); 1 H 23 May (JeB, CW).

Com. Moorhen: arr 1 S 18 Apr.

Sandhill Crane: arr 1 BB 11 Mar (DT), early; 39+ BB all Apr, total 15 other loc all Apr.

"LESSER" SANDHILL CRANE: 1 BB 17 Apr (DT).

Black-bellied Plover: arr 2 P 5 May.

Am. Golden-Plover: arr 2 BB 25 Apr (DT); Parma 5 May (DT).

Semipalmated Plover: arr 1 HB 28 Apr; max 9 HB 28 May.

Killdeer: arr 1 G 5 Mar; max 323 BB 1 Apr (DT).

Greater Yellowlegs: arr 1 sev loc 5 Apr; last 1 T Ogden, MONR 25 May.

Lesser Yellowlegs: arr 1 sev loc 5 Apr.

Solitary Sandpiper: arr 2 DE 25 Apr; max 16 BB 28 Apr (DT, JLaw); last 2 S 20 May.

Spotted Sandpiper: arr 1 T Cuyerville, LIVI 26 Apr.

Upland Sandpiper: arr 1 HB 28 Apr.

Whimbrel: max 134 HB 31 May (WS), 2nd highest Reg count.

Ruddy Turnstone: arr 1 SP 20 May; max 12 HB 31 May.

Red Knot: arr 1-3 SP 28-29 May (BC); arr & max 25 HB 28 May (DT, AGu, RS).

Sanderling: arr 1 SP 29 May (LL, RG).

Semipalmated Sandpiper: arr 12 S 12 May; max 598 HB 28 May (DT, AGu).

Least Sandpiper: arr 5 WAYN 5 Apr (JSI), very early; max 25 HB 28 May (DT, AGu).

White-rumped Sandpiper: arr 2 S 24 May.

Pectoral Sandpiper: arr 1 BB 17 Mar (DT), very early; last 1 M 23 May.

Dunlin: arr 1 H 6 Apr (G, F & HL), very early; max 335 HB 28 May (DT, AGu).

Stilt Sandpiper: arr 1 SP 29 May (LL, RG), rare here in spring.

Short-billed Dowitcher: arr 7 HB 24 May, very late arr; max 11 HB 29 May.

Wilson's Snipe: arr 1 HB 2 Mar (DT), very early.

Am. Woodcock: arr 1 G 7 Mar.

Bonaparte's Gull: arr 1 BB 7 Mar; max 70 DE 17 Apr, low.

Iceland Gull: 1 imm HB 24 Apr (AGu, WS, RS); 1 imm BB 19-20 May (RS, DT, KG, GL).

Lesser Black-backed Gull: 1 H 13, 26 Mar (DT); 1 1st sum OB 28 May (RS).

Caspian Tern: arr 1 G 7 Apr; max 105 HB 12 May.

Com. Tern: arr 5 PB 17 Apr; max 46 HB 19 May.

Forster's Tern: arr 1 G 17 Apr; max 11 BB 9 May.

PIGEONS - WOODPECKERS

Eurasian Collared-Dove: 1 H 6 Mar (RS), intro.

Snowy Owl: 1 Groveland, LIVI 11 Apr (PI); last 1 RO 2 May (SM, mob).

Long-eared Owl: total 8 M all Mar.

N. Saw-whet Owl: total 4 M all Mar.

Com. Nighthawk: arr 1 G 14 May; max 85 G 29 May.

Whip-poor-will: arr 1 HP 24 Apr; Bergen Swamp 20 May, first here in sev years.

Chimney Swift: arr 1 BB 25 Apr; max 158 HB 16 May.

Ruby-throated Hummingbird: arr 1 M 25 Apr (GL, JSk, RMc), ties Reg record early; max 67 BB 14 May (DT).

Red-headed Woodpecker: 1 S 28 Mar (BW, SB), interesting loc.

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: 2 Rattlesnake Hill WMA, LIVI 17 Mar, overwinter site.

FLYCATCHERS – WAXWINGS

Olive-sided Flycatcher: arr 1 G 24 May; S 29 May, only reports.

E. Wood-Pewee: arr 1 W 30 Apr (D&DT), very early.

Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: arr 4b, 1 M/ICW 16 May.

Acadian Flycatcher: 1 LW 13 May.

Alder Flycatcher: arr 1 A 19 May.

Willow Flycatcher: arr 1 M 16 May.

Least Flycatcher: arr 1 ICW 25 Apr (R&SS, et al.), very early.

E. Phoebe: arr 1 CL 17 Mar, early.

Great Crested Flycatcher: arr 1 ICW, BR 25 Apr (mob), very early; max 62 BB 14 May (DT).

E. Kingbird: arr 1 BB 24 Apr, early; max 439 BB 16 May.

N. Shrike: total 36 sev loc all Mar; last 1 WL 11 Apr.

White-eyed Vireo: arr 1 R 4 May (KH); 1 RO 4-5 May (BC, TP, mob); 1 DE 8 May (DD, mob).

Yellow-throated Vireo: arr 1 HS 26 Apr (LL), very early.

Blue-headed Vireo: arr 1 M 24 Apr.

Warbling Vireo: arr 1 A 22 Apr (LJ), ties Reg record early.

Philadelphia Vireo: arr 1b M 14 May.

Red-eyed Vireo: arr 1 BB 28 Apr, early.

Blue Jay: max 1910 HB 16 May, lower than usual max.

Fish Crow: 1 R 12 Apr (KF); 2 R 21 Apr (KF); 1 M 26 Apr (GL); 2 R 2 May (KF); 2 R 3 May MP, different site; 1 M 2-3 May (GL, RK).

Com. Raven: 1 MP 1 Mar (SG), interesting loc.

Horned Lark: max 206 BB 6 Mar.

Purple Martin: arr 1 H 2 Apr; max 225 HB 16 May.

Tree Swallow: arr 1 BB 7 Mar (CW), very early; max 500 G 18 Apr.

N. Rough-winged Swallow: arr 3 H 3 Apr (DT), very early; max 275 BB 14 May.

Bank Swallow: arr 2 W 20 Apr; max 3000 HB 14 May.

Cliff Swallow: arr 2 BB 27 Apr; max 130 BB 14 May (DT).

Barn Swallow: arr 1 G 27 Mar; max 470 HB 16 May.

House Wren: arr 1 HS 25 Apr.

Winter Wren: 1 Turning Point Park, C Rochester 7 Mar (NP, KSD), wintering bird?; number low.

Marsh Wren: arr 1 G 18 Apr.

Ruby-crowned Kinglet: arr 1 sev 17 Apr; max 86b M 17 Apr; last 1 G 24 May.
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher: arr 1b M 22 Apr.
E. Bluebird: max 425 HB 16 May (DT).
Veery: arr 1 W 30 Apr.
Gray-cheeked Thrush: arr 1 G 18 May; low numbers.
Wood Thrush: arr 1 M 26 Apr, early.
Am. Robin: max 10,000 BB 1 Apr (DT).
Am. Pipit: arr 1 BB 5 Mar; max 720 HB 16 May (DT).
Cedar Waxwing: max 1190 HB 16 May (DT).

WARBLERs

Blue-winged Warbler: arr 3,1 ICW, W 27 Apr (mob), very early.
Golden-winged Warbler: arr 1 T Murray, ORLE 8 May.
"Brewster's" Warbler: 1 A 8 May (SD).
"Lawrence's" Warbler: 1 RO 4-5 May; 1b M 11 May.
Tennessee Warbler: arr 1 CH 3 May (CC), very early.
Orange-crowned Warbler: arr 1b M 28 Apr.
Nashville Warble: arr 1 sev loc 26 Apr.
N. Parula: arr 1 ICW, G 29 Apr.
Yellow Warbler: arr 1 sev 25 Apr.
Chestnut-sided Warbler: arr 1 M, ICW 29 Apr.
Magnolia Warbler: arr 3 ICW 28 Apr (BC,JSk), very early.
Cape May Warbler: arr 1 G 26 Apr.
Black-throated Blue Warbler: arr 1 PE 26 Apr (B&MAC), very early.
Yellow-rumped Warbler: arr 1 R 16 Apr, max 220 BB 14 May, low.
Black-throated Green Warbler: arr 1 sev loc 25 Apr.
Blackburnian Warbler: arr 1 CH 27 Apr (PM), very early.
Pine Warbler: 1 CL Inlet Swamp 9 Mar (MW), likely overwinter bird; arr 1 CL 9 Apr.
Prairie Warbler: arr 1 M 9 May.
Palm Warbler: arr 1 ICW 24 Apr; max 65 BB 28 Apr.
Bay-breasted Warbler: arr 1 G 7 May.
Blackpoll Warbler: arr 1 CH 12 May.
Cerulean Warbler: arr 1 HS 3 May (R&SS), very early.
Black-and-white Warbler: arr 1 CH 25 Apr.
Am. Redstart: arr 1 PE 29 Apr (DS,BC,JP), very early.
Ovenbird: arr 1b, 1 M, A 27 Apr (BBBO,SD), very early.
N. Waterthrush: arr 1 BR 25 Apr.
Louisiana Waterthrush: arr 1 LW 15 Apr (CS), Reg record early.
Mourning Warbler: arr 2b M 15 May.

Com. Yellowthroat: arr 1 sev 26 Apr, early.
Hooded Warbler: arr 1 BR 25 Apr (SB,TJ,TL), very early.
Wilson's Warbler: arr 2b M 9 May.
Canada Warbler: arr 1 G 8 May.
Yellow-breasted Chat: arr 1 ICW 14 May (MP,JM), few rep annually.

TANAGERS - WEAVERS

Scarlet Tanager: arr 1 LW 1 May (AW), ties Reg record early; max 172 BB 14 May (DT).
E. Towhee: arr 1 R 14 Apr.
Am. Tree Sparrow: last 2,1 BB, G 21 Apr.
Chipping Sparrow: arr 1 W 29 Mar; max 78 BB 28 Apr.
Clay-colored Sparrow: 1b M 1 Mar.
Field Sparrow: 1, 2 HP, ICW 28 Mar.
Vesper Sparrow: arr 1 T Murray, ORLE 3 Apr.
Grasshopper Sparrow: arr 1 T Pittsford, MONR 28 Apr.
Fox Sparrow: arr 1 ICW 19 Mar; max 23 R 8 Apr (KH); last 1b M 26 Apr.
Lincoln's Sparrow: arr 1b M 30 Apr.
White-crowned Sparrow: arr 7 HB 26 Apr.
Lapland Longspur: max 38 BB 25 Apr; last 3 H 30 Apr.
Snow Bunting: last 1 BB 18 Apr.
Rose-breasted Grosbeak: arr 1 CL 27 Apr.
Indigo Bunting: arr 1 BB 28 Apr (RS), very early; max 116 BB 14 May (DT).
Dickcissel: arr 1 BB late Apr (DT).
Bobolink: arr BB 20 Apr (DT), early; max 1745 BB 14 May.
E. Meadowlark: arr 1 BB 5 Mar, early.
YELLOW-HEADED BLACKBIRD: 1m W 25 Apr (D&DT).
Rusty Blackbird: 209 HB 18 Apr (JeB, CW); 210 BB 28 Apr (DT, JLaw); last 1 Powder Mill Park, MONR 19 May.
BREWER'S BLACKBIRD: 1 PA 15 Apr (DT); 1 T Murray 4 May (KG), male.
Orchard Oriole: arr 1 H 26 Apr (KH), very early.
Baltimore Oriole: arr 1 CL 26 Apr; max 516 BB 14 May.
Purple Finch: max 260 BB 28 Apr (DT, JLaw).
White-winged Crossbill: 40 R 34 May (LC).
Com. Redpoll: last 1 R 19 Apr.
Hoary Redpoll: 10, 8 HB 1,3 Mar (DT, RC), very high counts.
HOARY "GREENLAND" REDPOLL: 1 HB 7 Mar (CW), carefully identified to subspecies:
Pine Siskin: max 1138 HB 18 Apr (JeB, CW); 1065 BB 14 May (DT).
Am. Goldfinch: max 3450 HB 16 May (DT).

REGION 3—FINGER LAKES

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Weather this spring was largely unremarkable. March temperatures and precipitation were very average, though April was 2.8° F warmer than normal, due in large part to the period of 25-28 April. A strong southerly flow resulted in temperatures about 10° above normal and corresponded with the biggest influx of migrant passerines of the spring. As one example, Yellow Warbler had not been recorded in the Cayuga Lake Basin this spring before 25 April—hundreds appeared throughout the Region that day along with almost a dozen other “new arrival” species.

Rarities for the Region this season included Pacific Loon (with reports in the five years since 2003, it can now almost be considered an annual species in the Region), Snowy Egret, Sedge Wren, Yellow-throated Warbler, and Lark Sparrow.

Ross's Geese were present in several large flocks of Snow Geese this spring, and at least two hybrids, both white and dark morph, were discovered and photographed. Up to two Eared Grebes were seen in Aurora Bay, Cayuga Lake until 16 March, variably in the company of the other three expected grebe species.

Sandhill Cranes continue to be present in the Montezuma Wetlands Complex. These birds appear to be almost resident, only leaving for a few months in winter, apparently dependent on the snow cover. Though cranes are often observed at Knox-Marcellus Marsh and the MNWR Main Pool, they are more frequently found to the north in Region 2, where breeding is most likely to occur in the vicinity of Martens Tract in Savannah. In addition to up to eight birds at MNWR, several migrant cranes were also noted as flyovers in Tompkins County this spring. The shorebird migration was uneventful, with an observation of 12 flyover Red Knots in Union Springs on 31 May providing a hint of the numbers of shorebirds that migrate over the Region without stopping.

The Snowy Owl that was found last season in Ovid remained until 23 April and was fairly reliably seen by many happy birders during its long stay.

Rarer passerines that were enjoyed by many at Sapsucker Woods in Ithaca included a Sedge Wren 29 April-1 May and a White-eyed Vireo 4-6 May. The Sedge Wren, though difficult to see, was often easy to hear as it was skulking in a patch of grasses in the middle of the Lab of Ornithology parking lot, where Chris Tessaglia-Hymes first detected it by song.

The warbler migration this spring had a peculiar dynamic, probably mostly related to Regional weather. Both warblers and other late April-early May migrants were delayed in arrival until 25 April, when a powerful southerly flow brought many new migrants to the Region. Arrivals directly related to this system include Black Tern, Ruby-throated Hummingbird, Least Flycatcher, Great Crested Flycatcher, Eastern Kingbird, Veery, Swainson's Thrush, Yellow-

throated Vireo, Warbling Vireo, Red-eyed Vireo, Tennessee Warbler, Nashville Warbler, Northern Parula, Yellow Warbler, Chestnut-sided Warbler, Magnolia Warbler, Cape May Warbler, Black-throated Blue Warbler, American Redstart, Ovenbird, Scarlet Tanager, Indigo Bunting, Chipping Sparrow, Lincoln's Sparrow, White-crowned Sparrow, and Bobolink. In other words, this system brought the arrivals for a very healthy percentage of the common neotropical migrants that pass through the Finger Lakes. Passerine migration stagnated in early and mid-May, with notable concentrations of migrants largely absent. A Yellow-throated Warbler seen briefly 21 April at Myers Point was noteworthy. Although the bird did not remain in the immediate area, Salmon Creek is bordered by much appropriate habitat for this species, so breeding should be looked for in the future.

A Lark Sparrow seen by Chris Wood at MNWR on 23 May also proved elusive, but nonetheless provides a nice spring record of a very rare species for the Region.

This was an exciting spring for finches in the Region, particularly White-winged Crossbills and Pine Siskins. Numbers of crossbills were very high in early March, continuing from a record winter incursion of the species south of the boreal forest. Counts tapered off through the spring. However, breeding was detected in several places including Summerhill State Forest and even within the town of Ithaca, where a female was seen carrying nesting material on 7 April. A late, strong count of 205 White-winged Crossbills came from Gerrit Vyn at Summerhill State Forest on 17 March. Red Crossbills were present in small numbers early in the period at Summerhill State Forest, and copulation was observed on 14 April. The very large winter presence of Pine Siskins carried over into the spring, though they were not detected in large numbers after the second week of May. Scattered pairs and small groups concentrated in suitable nesting habitat, and more direct evidence showed that siskins at least attempted to nest widely this spring. Several observers noted the presence of "green morph" Pine Siskins among the siskin hordes. This "morph" may actually just be the extremely bright end of the spectrum of variation with Pine Siskin. A second year male American Goldfinch, which was banded at Kestrel Haven near Seneca Lake by John and Sue Gregoire on 14 May 2008, was recovered on 12 March 2009 at Swansea, South Carolina, 650 miles south-southeast.

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ABBREVIATIONS

CU – Cornell University, Ithaca; DuP – Durland Preserve, Dryden; EHCP – Ellis Hollow Creek Preserve, Dryden; LWL – Lamoka and Waneta Lakes, Tyrone; LPSP – Long Point State Park; MNWR – Montezuma National Wildlife Refuge; MyPt – Myers Point; StP – Stewart Park, Ithaca; SSF – Summerhill State Forest; SW – Sapsucker Woods.

WHISTLING-DUCKS – VULTURES

Greater White-fronted Goose: MNWR 15 Mar (LL).

Snow Goose: max 125,000 MNWR 8 Mar (TL).

Ross's Goose: 2 Scipio Center 1 Mar (TJ, SB); 3 Ithaca 7 Mar (KR); 1 Mud Lock 7 Mar (TJ, BW, TL, SB).

Snow x Ross's Goose hybrid: apparent lt morph Ithaca 9 Mar (MS); apparent dk morph Savannah Mucklands 7 Mar (TJ, BW, CWi, SB, TL)

Cackling Goose: Mudlock 7 Mar (TJ, BW); 2 MNWR 16 Mar (CWo, JB); Ovid 23 Mar (NS).

American x Eurasian Wigeon hybrid: Ithaca 19-21 Mar (JB, CWo, MI).

PACIFIC LOON: Sheldrake 19-27 Mar (BM, DN, mob).

Eared Grebe: Aurora Bay thru 8 Mar (TJ, BW, TL, SB); 2 MyPt 14 Apr (CWo, JB).

SNOWY EGRET: StP 2 Apr (TL, mob); MyPt 2 Apr (mob); MNWR 2 Apr (mob); all three records presumably pertain to a single vagrant encountered three times in one day – incredible.

HAWKS - ALCIDS

Sandhill Crane: Ithaca 21 Mar (KR); Brooktondale 10 Apr (SF); up to 8 MNWR 21 Mar-31 May (mob).

Black-bellied Plover: arr MNWR 1 May (LL); MyPt 31 May (JG).

Ruddy Turnstone: arr Ithaca 4-5 May (TJ); last MyPt 24 May (JG).

Red Knot: 12 Union Springs 31 May (CWo, JB).

Lesser Black-backed Gull: last Deans Cove, Cayuga Lake 25 Apr (TJ, SB, TL, CWi).

Iceland Gull: last MyPt 12 Mar (PH).

Glaucous Gull: last MNWR 8 Mar (DN).

PIGEONS – WOODPECKERS

Snowy Owl: Ovid 1 Mar – 23 Apr (mob).

Long-eared Owl: StP 9 Mar (sde TJ), migrant.

The Kingbird 2009 September, 59 (3)

Whip-poor-will: Dryden 30 Apr (LG); West Danby 4 May (BE, mob); Ovid 31 May (AP).

Red-headed Woodpecker: Dryden 27 May (JMo); Hector 29 May (JG).

FLYCATCHERS - WAXWINGS

White-eyed Vireo: SW 4-6 May (TS; mob).

Tree Swallow: arr Dryden 7 Mar (RD), Reg record early.

Ruby-crowned Kinglet: Ithaca 9 Mar (DN), early; arr Mecklenburg 8 Apr (ND)..

SEDEGE WREN: SW 29 Apr-1 May (CTH; mob), very rare in spring.

Gray Catbird: overwintered CU through 5 Mar (RD); arr MNWR 31 Mar (JA), Reg record early.

WARBLERS

Orange-crowned Warbler: Ithaca 26 Apr (TL, CWi); Ithaca 2 May (JMc).

Golden-winged Warbler: Ithaca 26 Apr (SK); Ithaca 14 May (DN, JM).

Chestnut-sided Warbler: Ithaca 26 Apr (SK), Reg record early.

YELLOW-THROATED WARBLER: MyPt 21 Apr (CWo, JB).

Prothonotary Warbler: 2 singing males LWL 23 May (ED).

TANAGERS - WEAVERS

LARK SPARROW: MNWR 23 May (CWo).

Lapland Longspur: last 9 Seneca Falls 18 Apr (TJ, SB, BW).

RED CROSSBILL: SSF 1 Apr (TJ, NS), copulation; last SSF 19 Apr (TJ, CS).

WHITE-WINGED CROSSBILL: present through period, Ithaca 7 Apr (TJ) carrying nest material; max 205 SSF 17 May (GV).

Pine Siskin: present thru, many locations.

Am. Goldfinch: 2nd yr m banded Kestrel Haven 14 May 2008 recovered 12 Mar 2009 Swansea, SC.

REGION 4—SUSQUEHANNA

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March started out sunny and seasonable. After a nearly snowless February, March provided little snow as well. In fact, the Binghamton National Weather Service had it as the least amount of March snow on record! Overall the month of February was warmer than usual by 2.4°. April was also warmer than usual, and drought conditions continued through April. May temperatures and precipitation were near normal. The usual wet spring conditions didn't materialize until June.

The first goose flights occurred on 8, 12 and 16 March. Snow Geese were well reported in these flights. Noteworthy waterfowl reports include: 31 **Tundra Swans** at Whitney Pt. Reservoir on 8 March and Long-tailed Duck, Ruddy Duck, and **White-winged Scoter**. Bald Eagles were regularly reported throughout the Region and individuals continue to show up nearly anywhere along moderate to large wetlands and waterways. Between 5-14 March the Delaware-Otsego Audubon organized a raptor/eagle count at three locations in southern Delaware County. This area has been found to harbor concentrations of eagles, and during the study **66 Bald Eagles**, **31 Golden Eagles**, and three unidentified eagles were seen over the 10 day-period. Additionally, a total of 335 raptors was reported during the study. Merlin pairs continue to be recorded with increasing frequency, with pairs reported from Binghamton, Cortland (nest with at least three young found at Suggett Park), Oneonta, and Cooperstown. Red-shouldered Hawks and lesser numbers of Northern Goshawks seem well-established in western Chenango County and nearby areas in adjacent counties.

Two **Sandhill Cranes** were seen, one at Five Streams State Forest near Jam Pond German on 6 April and another at Upper Lisle on 6 May (see addendum noting four Sandhill Cranes in Otsego County 2008). Shorebird and owl reports were lacking, but a N. Saw-whet Owl was heard in March-April in a backyard in Roseboom, Otsego County. Northern Shrikes seemed scarce this past year, and only four were reported in March. Common Ravens continue to increase as breeders and as winter residents throughout the area; many were seen/heard in various State forests and parks. Additionally, a large group of 41+ Common Ravens was seen at E. Burlington, Otsego County on 13 March and dozens were again observed at the Pharsalia dump. These large wandering groups of ravens are thought to be largely younger, non-breeding birds.

Once again, **Swainson's Thrushes** were heard on nesting grounds in late May in the Pharsalia area. Other than in Delaware County along the edges of the Catskills, the Pharsalia area is the only place in Region 4 where Swainson's Thrushes can be found nesting. Many typically more northern breeding warblers

can also be regularly heard in the Pharsalia area, along with Pine Siskins, both crossbills, Northern Goshawk, Red-shouldered hawk, Broad-winged Hawk, Common Raven, and other northern specialties such as White-throated Sparrow. Overall, other than finches, very few notable songbirds were reported. The only two notable observations were that **Cerulean Warblers** continue breeding at the south end of Skaneateles Lake and yet another new **Cliff Swallow** colony was found under the Port Watson Bridge in Cortland. A significant early push of several warbler species occurred on 24 April (see species accounts).

Birds with a more southern affinity, such as Tufted Titmouse, Northern Cardinal, Carolina Wren, and Red-bellied Woodpecker, appear to be continuing to increase in the area. Although most reports are still from river valleys, these species also appear to be now more commonly reported above 1500'. Northern Cardinal in particular seems common in some areas up to 1700'

There was an impressive invasion of some of the winter finches this year. Particularly noteworthy were the invasions of **Pine Siskin** and **White-winged Crossbill**, with both staging perhaps their largest invasions since 1989-90. Both species were seen through May, with siskins persisting in large numbers into late May and continuing in smaller numbers into July. Small numbers of Pine Siskins appeared to nest near well-stocked feeders and at state forests, e.g. Morgan Hill State Forest and Pitcher Springs State Forest, areas that produced good cone crops. Additionally, **Common Redpolls** staged a small late invasion that commenced in late January, this after a large invasion last winter. Only a few Evening Grosbeaks and one Pine Grosbeak were seen, and in March Purple Finches started migrating into the area.

Lastly, a very interesting mix of five different “call types” of **Red Crossbills** was found across Central New York—types 1, 2, 3, 4, and 10 from 5 March-1 May. Approximately 40 individuals of call types 1, 2, 3, and 10 were seen and recorded at Morgan Hill State Forest. However, most of these birds were usually seen on the Region 5 side of the Onondaga/Cortland County line. Also, a flock of ~15 **Red Crossbills** of three different call types, types 1, 3, and 10, were recorded at Pitcher Springs State Forest, and a few scattered pairs and singing males, mostly call type 1s and a couple of type 10s, were recorded from Otselic to Pharsalia. A type 4 was recorded in Region 3 at Summerhill State Forest in April. Also at Summerhill in April were birds of call types 1, 2, 3, and 10, present again later in Pharsalia in July.

Note: In this call type work, audiospectrographic analysis was used to reveal the five different calls types. At all of these locations singing birds were heard frequently, and some nesting was strongly suspected. However, by early May most of what remained were only a few “near” resident call type 1 birds that have been observed in this area since at least 2004. Overall, birds appeared paired by “call type”, but at least two possible mixed pairings—a type 1 with a type 3 and a type 1 with a type 10—were observed. Again though, it’s unclear whether any of these mixed pairings actually resulted in nesting More research needed!

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ABBREVIATIONS

BCC – Binghamton Country Club; Bing – T Binghamton; BHL – Buck Horn Lake OTSE; BPd – Boland Pond; BUNP – Binghamton University Nature Preserve; CVSP – Chenango Valley SP; FHNC – Finch Hollow Nature Center; GP – Greenwood Park BROO; LHNC – Lime Hollow Nature Center; ML – Mirror Lake TIOG; NuH – Nuthatch Hollow BROO; OtL – Otsego Lake OTSE; PharsWMA – Pharsalia Wildlife Management Area; RivR – River Rd., Endwell BROO; SkanL – Skaneateles Lake; UL – Upper Lisle; WCM – West Corners Marsh BROO; WPR – Whitney Point Reservoir BROO.

WHISTLING-DUCKS – VULTURES

Snow Goose: flights BROO 8,12,16 Mar; max 360 WPR 8 Mar.

Mute Swan: BPd thru.

TUNDRA SWAN: 31 WPR 8 Mar.

Trumpeter/Tundra Swan: imm Homer, CORT Apr-mid May, poss hybrid.

Wood Duck: arr 4 Bpd 7 Mar; max 14 UL 29 Mar & TioR 31 Mar; 8 "babies" Otsego Lake 21 May.

Gadwall: 6 UL BROO 20 Mar.

Am. Wigeon: max & arr 26 WPR 8 Mar.

Am. Black Duck: dozens of rep; numerous until April.

Blue-winged Teal: arr UL 6 Apr; “several small groups” Canaderago Lake outlet OTSE 16 Apr.

N. Shoveler: arr Bpd 9 Apr.

N. Pintail: arr 4 Bpd 4 Mar.

Green-winged Teal: arr 11 WPR 8 Mar; max 40 UL 20 Mar; sev rep.

Canvasback: arr BPd 6 Mar; max 5 WPR 8 Mar, 15 rep BROO.

Redhead: arr BPd 1 Mar; 11 rep BROO.

Ring-necked Duck: max 73 WPR 8 Mar; last UL 6 May.

Greater Scaup: arr WPR 8 Mar; max 12 Canaderago Lake outlet OTSE 16 Apr.

Lesser Scaup: SusqR 11 Mar; last 7 SusV 13 Apr; 5 rep BROO.

Long-tailed Duck: 2 Mirror Lake Owego 19 Mar.

WHITE-WINGED-SCOTER: one m Keibel Rd 12 Apr.

Bufflehead: 18 rep.

Com. Goldeneye: 2 DP 22 Mar; only report.

Hooded Merganser: max 40 Oneonta 25 Mar; many rep.

Com. Merganser: max 50+ Keibel Rd 12 Apr.

Red-breasted Merganser: max 6 Keibel Rd 12 Apr.

Ruddy Duck: max six Keibel Rd 12 Apr.

Wild Turkey: few rep.

Com. Loon: only 2 reports.

Pied-billed Grebe: pair BPd Apr; 6 rep.

Horned Grebe: max 13 River Rd 16 Mar; last BPd 16 Apr.

Double-crested Cormorant: max 10 Keibel Rd 11 Apr; 8 rep from UL Apr & May.

Green Heron: arr Otsiningo 29 Apr.

Turkey Vulture: arr Maine BROO 1 Mar; max 35-39 Vestal BROO 15 Mar.

HAWKS – ALCIDS

Osprey: arr BPd 11 Apr.

Bald Eagle: 33 Franskevicz Rd Hawk Watch DELA b/w 3/5-3/14; nesting along SusqR and TioR and other areas; *intro*.

N. Harrier: only a few rep.

N. Goshawk: pr nesting Heiberg SUNY-ESF Forest CORT Apr; pr North Rd Phar 21 Mar; Richford 16 May.

Red-shouldered Hawk: arr BROO, TIOG, OSTE, CORT, CHEN 15-20 Mar; sev pr throughout Reg, appears to now be well established in state lands in several counties.

Broad-winged Hawk: arr sev counties ~ 27 Apr; also well established in many state forests throughout Reg.

Rough-legged Hawk: a few migrants mid March to 1 Apr; lower than usual numbers this winter.

Golden Eagle: max 17 Franskevicz Rd Hawk Watch DELA 5-14 Mar; 20 rep during Mar & Apr, well-established migr throughout Reg; *intro*.

Am. Kestrel: few wintering lingerers; influx of migrants end Mar; still well established as a breeder despite lower wintering numbers.

Merlin: pairs Binghamton, Cortland, Oneonta, Cooperstown Apr; other rep away from cities; continues to expand.

Peregrine Falcon: pr Binghamton copulating Mar; one WPR 8 Mar.

Virginia Rail: arr BPd 19 Apr; reported UL May.

Sora: 1 Brick Pond Owego 15 May.

Am. Coot: “some” Otsego Lake.

SANDHILL CRANE: 1 near “Jam Pond” German CHEN 6 Apr; 1 UL 1 May; sightings continue to increase in NY.

Semipalmated Plover: UL 16 May; BUNP 27 May; only reports.

Killdeer: arr end Feb/beginning Mar.

Greater Yellowlegs: only 2 reports.

Lesser Yellowlegs: only 2 reports.

Solitary Sandpiper: max 10 Brick Pond Owego 7 May; 7 reports.

Spotted Sandpiper: arr UL 24 Apr.

Least Sandpiper: Murphy’s 4 May; 3 other rep.

Wilson’s Snipe: max & arr 12 Barker BROO 2 Apr; few rep.

Am. Woodcock: arr 18 Richford TIOG 18 Mar.

Bonaparte’s Gull: max & arr 12 UL 24 Apr; 2 other rep

PIGEONS - WOODPECKERS

Black-billed Cuckoo: arr BUNP BROO 3 May; 10 rep.

Yellow-billed Cuckoo: arr BUNP BROO 16 May; 5 rep.

E. Screech-Owl: several in agricultural river valleys.

Barred Owl: largely confined to mesic forested hills and lowland forested swamps.

N. Saw-whet Owl: Roseboom OSTE Mar-Apr thru.

Com. Nighthawk: Bing 24 May.

Chimney Swift: arr Conklin Rd 29 Apr; nesting all cities and many hamlets.

Ruby-throated Hummingbird: arr Greene CHEN 27 Apr.

Red-bellied Woodpecker: numerous reports along river valleys and towns <1500'; perhaps increasing.

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: early arr Pitcher Springs SF CHEN Mar 17; increasing rep after 2 Apr.

N. Flicker: scarce in Mar along river valleys becoming increasingly common throughout Apr.

FLYCATCHERS - WAXWINGS

E. Wood-Pewee: arr Hamden DELA 10 May; inc rep after 20 May.

Alder Flycatcher: arr Aqua Terra TIOG 22 May; inc rep after 24 May.

Willow Flycatcher: arr UL & Richford 16 May; inc rep after 22 May.

Least Flycatcher: arr BROO 24 Apr.

E. Phoebe: arr Endwell 20 Mar.

Great-crested Flycatcher: arr BPd 2 May.

E. Kingbird: arr E. Burlington OSTE 29 Apr; inc rep after 5 May.

N. Shrike: 4 scattered rep; not common this past winter; last mid Mar.

Yellow-throated Vireo: arr Dorchester 29 Apr; inc rep after 12 May.

Blue-headed Vireo: arr Endicott 16 Apr; inc rep after 26 Apr.

Warbling Vireo: arr Kiing St Bing 24 Apr; inc rep after 28 Apr.

Red-eyed Vireo: arr Port Dickinson Park 5 May.

Fish Crow: rep of presumed breeders from Endwell, Bing, Owego, Vestal, & Union.

Com. Raven: max 41 E. Burlington OSTE 13 March, likely a Region 4 record; widespread and inc as a breeder and resident throughout and also expanding into river valleys.

Horned Lark: arr breeding subspecies flocks Mar, then flocks breaking up in mid Mar.

Purple Martin: may no longer nest anywhere in Region.

Tree Swallow: arr River Rd Endwell 19 Mar; "major numbers" River Rd Endwell ~1 Apr.

N. Rough-winged Swallow: arr River Rd Endwell 17 Apr.

Bank Swallow: arr BP 24 Apr.

Cliff Swallow: arr Rte 12 Agway BROO 2 May; newer nesting colony w ~15 nests Preble CORT May; ~6 nests Port Watson Bridge Cort May.

Barn Swallow: arr Whitney Pt 11 Apr.

Tufted Titmouse: increasing nester along many river valleys of Region <1500'.

Red-breasted Nuthatch: widespread throughout high elevation state forests.

Brown Creeper: widespread scattered rep; birds migrating and heard thru Apr.

Carolina Wren: 7 rep sev loc late Mar thru; nesting along many of the major river valleys in Region and smaller ravines at <1300ft.

Marsh Wren: BPd 29 Apr, nesting loc.

House Wren: arr OTSE 10 Apr.

Winter Wren: fairly common after mid Apr in

state forests.

Golden-crowned Kinglet: scarce early Apr; inc afterwards at high elevation spruce plantations.

Ruby-crowned Kinglet: arr Aqua Terra 10 Apr; many rep after 24 Apr.

Blue-gray Gnatcatcher: arr UL 24 Apr; local afterwards along larger low elevation river valleys.

E. Bluebird: several rep Mar; inc after March.

Veery: arr 1 May Cort; inc rep after 5 May..

Swainson's Thrush: breeders returned to Phars WMA late May: Mill St Bing "singing" 25 May.

Hermit Thrush: arr BROO 8 Apr.

Wood Thrush: arr CORT 1 May; widespread 10 May thru.

Am. Robin: "small" widespread wintering numbers into Mar; no large concentrations like last winter.

Gray Catbird: arr Cort 1 May, late arrival.

N. Mockingbird: "few" overwintering birds Owego, Bing, and at least 1 Cort; migrants arrived April.

Brown Thrasher: arr Aqua Terra 10 Apr; increasing rep late Apr.

Am. Pipit: arr Kolb Rd BROO 29 Mar.

Cedar Waxwing: few Mar; increasing mid Apr; max 100+ Cort 22 Apr.

WARBLERS

Blue-winged Warbler: arr UL 274Apr; widespread, many rep.

Tennessee Warbler: arr Bing 15 May.

Nashville Warbler: arr King St 24 Apr; many rep after 2 May.

N. Parula: arr King St 2 May; 5 rep.

Yellow Warbler: arr UL 24 Apr; several rep after 25 Apr.

Chestnut-sided Warbler: arr UL 24 Apr.

Magnolia Warbler: arr E. Burlington OSTE 2 May.

CAPE MAY WARBLER: more rep CNY than usual; no rep Southern Tier counties.

Black-throated Blue Warbler: arr King St 24 Apr, a bit early.

Yellow-rumped Warbler: arr BPd 16 Apr, late.

Black-throated Green Warbler: arr King St 24 Apr.

Blackburnian Warbler: arr BPd BROO 2 May.

Pine Warbler: four arr Round Top 8 Apr; breeding loc increasing.

Prairie Warbler: arr King St 24 Apr; local and inc breeder; many loc southern part of Reg..

Palm Warbler: arr UL 2 May; late, only rep.

PHOTO GALLERY
Spring 2009

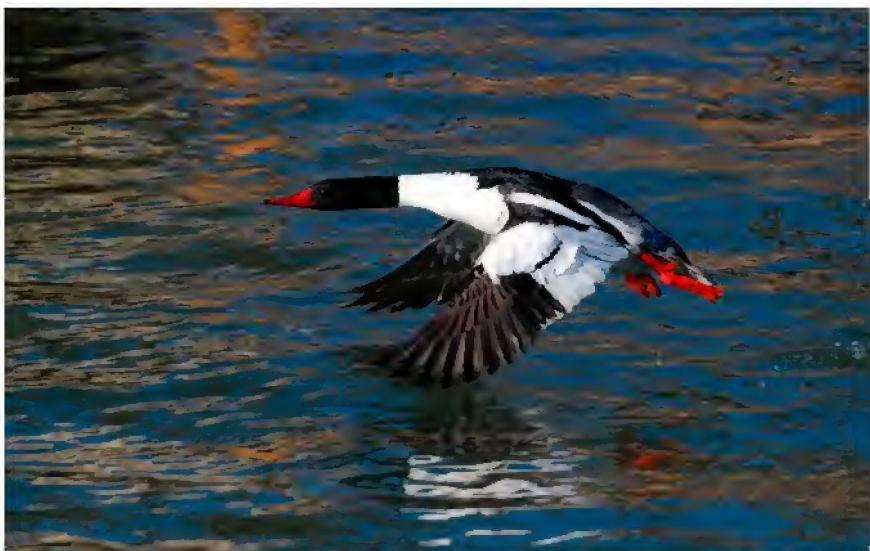


Figure A. Common Merganser, Niagara River, Niagara Co., 22 March 2009, copyright Jim Pawlicki.



Figure B. Virginia Rail, Tonawanda WMA, Genesee Co., 14 May 2009, copyright Jim Pawlicki.



Figure C. Upland Sandpiper, Seneca Falls, Seneca Co., 18 April 2009, copyright Tom Johnson.



Figure D. Red Crossbill, Summer Hill State Forest, Cayuga Co., 19 April 2009, copyright Tom Johnson.



Figure E. Adult Mitred Parakeet, likely *A. m. tucumana*, Hillcrest Estates, Queens Co., 18 April 2009, copyright Seth Ausubel. See pp. 226-230.



Figure F. Immature Mitred Parakeet, Hillcrest Estates, Queens Co., 9 April 2006, copyright Kathy Forrestal. See pp. 226-230.



Figure G. Paired Roseate and Common Terns, Democrat Pt., Suffolk Co., 29 May 2009, copyright S. S. Mitra. See pp. 236-237.



Figure H. Cerulean Warbler singing a Hooded Warbler-like song, Doodletown, Rockland Co., 30 May 2009, copyright Tom Smith. See p. 236.

- Bay-breasted Warbler:** Morgan Hill SF Truxton May 15, only rep.
- Blackpoll Warbler:** arr UL 14 May; only 10 rep.
- CERULEAN WARBLER:** arr Cort 6 May; max 6 SkanL May.
- Black-and-white Warbler:** arr E. Burlington 2 May; few rep.
- Am. Redstart:** arr 17C Park 1 May; scarce at many CNY locations.
- Ovenbird:** arr Kolb Rd 28 Apr; inc after 2 May.
- N. Waterthrush:** 3 rep, very late, perhaps declining.
- Louisiana Waterthrush:** arr Scott CORT ~20 Apr; sev rep.
- Mourning Warbler:** 3 arr OSTE 30 April, record early; fairly widespread uncommon breeder in Region.
- Com. Yellowthroat:** arr Otsiningo 29 Apr.
- Hooded Warbler:** arr CORT 25 May; only rep, where most breeding occurs in Region.
- Canada Warbler:** arr BROO 29 Apr, early; more rep than recent years; max 6 Phar CHEN.
- TANAGERS - WEAVERS**
- Scarlet Tanager:** arr Ely Park 4 May.
- E. Towhee:** arr TIOG 14 Apr; many rep 19 Apr thru.
- Am. Tree Sparrow:** max 6 OTSE 4 Mar; last CORT ~1 Apr; numbers appeared down this past winter.
- Chipping Sparrow:** arr TIOG 16 Apr.
- Field Sparrow:** arr Rt 17C Park 7 Mar, very early, perhaps lingering from winter; many rep 16 Apr thru.
- Savannah Sparrow:** arr Kolb Rd 9 Apr.
- Fox Sparrow:** arr Aqua Terra 21 Mar; sev rep early Apr.
- Song Sparrow:** migr arr CORT 2 Mar.
- Swamp Sparrow:** arr Aqua Terra 10 Apr.
- White-throated Sparrow:** overwintered in small numbers at sev loc. **White-crowned Sparrow:** arr BROO 27 Apr; last CORT May 18.
- Snow Bunting:** max 100+ CORT early Mar; last CORT 25 Mar.
- Rose-breasted Grosbeak:** arr OTSE 27 Apr; 20+ rep sev loc 30 Apr - 3 May.
- Indigo Bunting:** arr Treadwell 2 May; inc 9 May thru.
- Bobolink:** arr Mix Rd 2 May; inc mid May thru.
- E. Meadowlark:** arr & max 6 Nanticoke 9 Mar; inc late Mar.
- Rusty Blackbird:** arr UL 20 Mar; few rep Apr; no big numbers.
- Brown-headed Cowbird:** a few overwintered CORT; "many" arr TIOG mid Mar.
- Baltimore Oriole:** arr Kolb Rd 27 Apr.
- Purple Finch:** 2-6 arr early Mar sev loc; inc 10 Apr, max ~12 Scott CORT mid Apr; widespread breeding behavior May above 1000'.
- House Finch:** small breeding number in towns, hamlets, and farms.
- PINE GROSBEAK:** Lincklaen CHEN early Mar; only report but a small invasion occurred ADKS south to Region 5 near thruway.
- RED CROSSBILL:** 15 Pitcher Springs SF 15 Mar; few widespread pairs and "singing" males Phar Mar-thru; ~40, many singing at Morgan Hill SF Truxton/Fabius along county line; "couple" Ridge Rd Otselic; "several call types" recorded in CNY 5 Mar-1 May; *intro*.
- WHITE-WINGED CROSSBILL:** widespread, but scattered small to large numbers; 100-150+ Morgan Hill SF Truxton Mar- early May; several small flocks Phar CHEN; 30+ Ridge Rd Ostelic; several flocks BROO and TIOG Mar; largest widespread irruption since 1989-90, *intro*.
- Com. Redpoll:** widespread small numbers of 2-15 in late developing end of Jan irruption; max ~20 Scott, CORT late Mar.
- HOARY REDPOLL:** 1 Truxton CORT early Mar.
- Pine Siskin:** widespread "massive" invasion; dozens to hundreds at nearly every feeder in area; largest invasion since 1989-90! Some nesting birds scattered at feeders and in state forests Mar-Apr; numbers dipped early Apr and increased late Apr thru May; max ~225 Scott CORT mid Mar.
- Evening Grosbeak:** 2 Lincklaen Mar; 1 Keibel Rd 12 Apr.
- Am. Goldfinch:** 20-40+ across Region Mar-Apr, good numbers.
- House Sparrow:** largely confined to villages, cities and rural farms; declining as a breeder?

ADDENDUM

Spring 2008: 4 SANDHILL CRANES were seen at a farm in Hartwick OSTE 8 April, good details provided.

REGION 5—ONEIDA LAKE BASIN

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The season was warmer than average and precipitation was near normal, but the 1.6" of snow was one of the lowest totals ever recorded for spring. Oneida Lake ice-out was on 10 April, with varying amounts of open water after 30 March. Record high temperatures in late April brought a good hawk flight plus many early arrivals, while the chilly and wet weather in the latter half of May seemed to disperse migrants. Many higher elevations had a hard frost as late as 31 May.

The March average temperature of 35.3° F was 1.7° above normal, and the 3.8" precipitation was 0.78" above normal. April had an average temperature of 48.2°, 2.9° above normal and 2.31" of precipitation, 1.08" below normal. The May averages were 57.5°, 0.4° above normal and 3.53" of precipitation, 0.14" above normal.

The Snow Goose migration was what has become routine, with eight days of a thousand plus moving by Derby Hill and many seen in the Port Byron mucklands. Trumpeter Swans were seen at several locations, and there was at least one nesting attempt. High counts of Northern Pintail, Ring-necked Duck, and Lesser Scaup were recorded, but Blue-winged Teal continued to be very scarce. Canvasback, Redhead, and Ruddy Duck were seen. The latter three species are typically more abundant to our west. Rarities for the season were one Ross's Goose with the passing Snow Geese at Derby Hill, two separate reports of Cackling Geese, Eurasian Wigeon at the Great Swamp Conservancy, and a male Harlequin Duck in the Nine Mile Point area of Lake Ontario, likely the same bird seen over the winter.

The nine Red-throated Loons for the season were more than we usually see in the spring. Oneida Lake was an important stopover for Common Loons. Few Least Bitterns had been found by the end of the season, while we had the usual wandering Great Egrets plus one Cattle Egret. A Yellow-crowned Night-Heron was one of two rare species found on the same day at Peter Scott Swamp, and the single observer gave a careful description distinguishing it from other herons. The night-heron was not seen again but two King Rails found nearby were heard by many birders through May and on occasion one was seen flying short distances in the swamp. The species had last been reported in the Region in 1992.

Turkey Vulture numbers continued to rise and new daily and season highs were reached this year. The lone Black Vulture came on 13 May, an unusual time of year, since most are seen with the peak Turkey Vulture migration in late March or early April. The best hawk flight came with a surge of southern air on 25 April, when over 6,000 Broad-winged Hawks were seen in one hour. May was a poor month for hawks, with north and west winds on many days and rain accompanying the infrequent days with south winds. Two Swainson's Hawks

were seen at Derby Hill along with four western Red-tailed Hawks. Peregrine Falcons were again nesting at Utica and Syracuse.

Sandhill Crane sightings increased again this year. Shorebird sightings were limited by high water levels on lakes and most reports were of birds in flooded fields or migrating along Oneida Lake. The Whimbrel flight was the best on record for spring and most of them were low-flying birds seen in unsettled, rainy weather. Young Iceland, Glaucous, and Lesser Black-backed Gulls continued well into the season, and a Little Gull was a migrant along Oneida Lake. Individual Forster's Terns at Derby Hill and Fair Haven were good spring finds.

After the big irruption over the winter, a few Snowy Owls lingered well into May. Only two migrant Long-eared Owls were found along Lake Ontario, while the two Northern Saw-whet Owls were found in likely breeding habitat. No Short-eared Owls were seen. Common Nighthawk numbers were up mostly due to an increase in observation time in the evening. By the end of the season there had only been one report of a migrant Red-headed Woodpecker and none had been found at recent breeding locations. Cuckoo numbers were down coinciding with the decline of the forest tent caterpillar irruption.

The first wave of neotropical migrants came on 25 and 26 April on record warm days. Migration continued at a typically staggered pace up to 16 May, but afterwards north and west winds delayed or dispersed birds. Warbler migration was moderate without noteworthy numbers of many species, and some of the later arrivals such as Blackpoll, Mourning, Wilson's and Canada were all poorly reported. There was an increase in Bay-breasted and Cape May Warbler sightings and Golden-winged Warbler seems to be hanging on at breeding sites. Matt Perry mentioned that breeding Louisiana Waterthrush seems to be in decline. We found one Orange-crowned Warbler, and a pair of Prothonotary Warblers was present in Three Mile Bay WMA but proved to be more elusive than in former years. Late spring migrants, Olive-sided Flycatcher, Yellow-bellied Flycatcher, Philadelphia Vireo, and Gray-cheeked Thrush, were all seen in small numbers. The only Sedge Wren and Clay-colored Sparrow were migrants along Lake Ontario. Sparrow migration as a whole was generally lackluster. Orchard Oriole has increased both as a migrant and at several breeding locations that have been monitored for the past few years. A big wave of blackbirds moved along the rivers and swamps from the Onondaga Lake Outlet to the Town of Schroeppel on 21-22 March. By checking photographs Tom Carrolan got the best estimate of the numbers with over a half million icterids leaving the area near the Seneca River, almost all of them Common Grackles.

Small numbers of Red and White-winged Crossbills remained in the southern highlands of Onondaga and Madison Counties. White-winged Crossbills were also noted in the Adirondacks and occasionally at spruce cones at lower elevations. There was a strong Common Redpoll migration in March, but few migrant Purple Finches were reported. Pine Siskins moved through the Region over much of the season with some staying to nest. Most departed within days of fledging young.

For the season there was a total of 245 species seen, four above the average for the past 10 years. Highlights were Ross's Goose, Eurasian Wigeon, Harlequin Duck, Cattle Egret, **Yellow-crowned Night-Heron**, Black Vulture, Swainson's Hawk, **King Rail**, Whimbrel, Little Gull, Forster's Tern, Sedge Wren, Orange-crowned Warbler, and Clay-colored Sparrow.

DERBY HILL HAWK MIGRATION TOTALS

<u>Species</u>	<u>Arrival</u>	<u>Max</u>	<u>Max Date</u>	<u>Total</u>
Turkey Vulture	5 Mar	2671	2 Apr	13250
Osprey	25 Mar	32	25, 27 Apr	392
Bald Eagle	25 Feb	23	9 May	313
No. Harrier	26 Feb	56	1 Apr	446
Sharp-sh. Hawk	10 Mar	326	24 Apr	2851
Cooper's Hawk	5 Mar	56	25 Mar	426
No. Goshawk	10 Mar	3	14 Mar	21
Red-sh. Hawk	7 Mar	112	27 Mar	508
Broad-wng. Hawk	13 Apr	9368	25 Apr	16453
Red-tailed Hawk	25 Feb	672	2 Apr	4555
Rough-lgd. Hawk	25 Feb	37	11 Apr	310
Golden Eagle	5 Mar	8	25 Mar	41
Am. Kestrel	10 Mar	31	3 Apr	253
Merlin	14 Mar	4	14 Apr	24
Peregrine Falcon	6 Mar	2	4 dates	15
Total, inc. unid.				<u>40150</u>

CONTRIBUTORS

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ABBREVIATIONS

Bvle – Baldwinsville; CM – Clay Marsh; DH – Derby Hill; FH – Fair Haven, Little Sodus Bay and vicinity; GSC – Great Swamp Conservancy, n. MADI; HI – Howland Island WMA; LOL – Lake Ontario Littoral; NMP – Nine Mile Point, T's Scriba and New Haven; OneiL – Oneida Lake; OnonL – Onondaga Lake;

SCH – T Schroeppel; SFNS – Spring Farm Nature Sanctuary, Kirkland; Skan – Skaneateles; SL – T's Sullivan & Lenox mucklands; SPd – Sandy Pond OSWE; SR – Split Rock, T Onondaga; SSSP – Selkirk Shores SP; Syr – Syracuse; TR – Three Rivers WMA; VB – Van Buren; WH – Whiskey Hollow, T Van Buren; WM – West Monroe.

WHISTLING-DUCKS - VULTURES

Snow Goose: max 50,000 Port Byron 8 Mar, 21,000 DH 19 Mar; 4000 Delta L 15 Mar, where formerly rare.
ROSS'S GOOSE: DH 27 Mar (KW).
Brant: arr OneIL 10 May; max 1940 OneIL 12 May.
Cackling Goose: 2 SCH 15 Mar (KM); SL 22 Mar (TSh).
Mute Swan: max 20 FH 14 May.
Trumpeter Swan: 2 SCH 18 Mar; 2 Volney after 14 Mar; 2 Hannibal 19 Mar.
Tundra Swan: max 8 DH 19 Mar.
Wood Duck: max 40 OneIL 9 Apr.
Gadwall: max 18 Brewerton 22 Mar.
EURASIAN WIGEON: GSC 29 Mar (TS).
Am. Wigeon: max 100 SPd 21 Mar.
Am. Black Duck: max 65 SCH 24 Mar.
Blue-winged Teal: max 6 SCH 9 Apr.
N. Shoveler: max 8 GSC 9 Apr & 8 SCH 14 Apr.
N. Pintail: max 970 SCH 24 Mar.
Green-winged Teal: max 85 SCH 4 Apr.
Canvasback: max 4 Brewerton 22 Mar.
Redhead: max 11 FH 3 Mar.
Ring-necked Duck: max 1000 SPd 21 Mar.
Greater Scaup: max 460 Brewerton 22 Mar.
Lesser Scaup: 800-1100 per day Three Mile Bay OneIL 10-30 Apr.
Harlequin Duck: NMP thru 18 Apr.
Surf Scoter: arr 3 Minoa 18 Apr; max 17 OneIL 29 Apr.
White-winged Scoter: 54 LOL 3 Mar; max 114 OneIL 12 May.
Black Scoter: Fulton 19 Apr, only report.
Long-tailed Duck: 19 Weaver L HERK 27 Apr, high for small lake; max 200 Oswego 3 May.
Bufflehead: max 65 Brewerton 22 Mar.
Com. Goldeneye: max 185 Brewerton 22 Mar.
Hooded Merganser: max 26 Brewerton 24 Mar.
Com. Merganser: max 211 OnonL 20 Mar.
Red-breasted Merganser: max 148 OneIL 17 Apr.
Ruddy Duck: max 5 OnonL 20 Mar; 3 Lakeport 22 Mar; 2 Minoa 18 Apr.
Red-throated Loon: max 3 OneIL 9 Apr; 9 total for season.

Com. Loon: max 215 OneIL 28 Apr.
Pied-billed Grebe: max 6 Volney 13 May.
Horned Grebe: max 8 OneIL 10 Apr.
Red-necked Grebe: max 18 OneIL 10 Apr.
Double-crested Cormorant: arr DH 2 Apr.
Am. Bittern: max 3 per day CM, SCH & WM.
Least Bittern: Mexico Pt 13 May; CM 16 May; Utica Marsh 20 May.
Great Blue Heron: max 26 DH 6 Apr.
Great Egret: max 3 SCH 19 May; 12 for season.
Cattle Egret: VB 31 May (fide JB).
Green Heron: max 13 CM 16 May.
YELLOW-CROWNED NIGHT-HERON: SCH 16 May (BF! NYSARC), fourth spring record.

HAWKS - ALCIDS

Black Vulture: DH 13 May.
SWAINSON'S HAWK: DH 24 Apr & 6 May (KW, NYSARC).
Red-tailed Hawk: rufous-morph DH 2, 24 Apr; dark-morph DH 5, 23 Apr.
Golden Eagle: SCH 24 Mar; Erieville 23 Apr; 3 reports near DH.
Peregrine Falcon: OneIL 19 May; nesting Utica & Syr.
KING RAIL: 2 SCH after 16 May (MSc, MM, mob, NYSARC).
Com. Moorhen: max 22 Volney 13 May.
Am. Coot: 2 Bville 7 Mar; 2 GSC 24 Apr; 2 Volney after 3 May.
Sandhill Crane: 3 Palermo 21 Apr; 3 New Haven 21 Apr; 28 for season DH, record numbers.
Black-bellied Plover: arr & max 2 OneIL 15 May; SCH 23 May.
Semipalmated Plover: max 9 SCH 23 May.
Solitary Sandpiper: max 13 Skan 1 May.
Greater Yellowlegs: max 6 SL 7 Apr.
Lesser Yellowlegs: max 4 W Eaton 6 May.
Upland Sandpiper: arr Fulton & DH 19 Apr.
Whimbrel: OnonL 16 May; max 71 OneIL 27 May; 95 total 15-27 May, record spring numbers.
Ruddy Turnstone: 2 FH 22, 26 May.
Sanderling: FH 16 May, only report.
Semipalmated Sandpiper: arr SCH 16 May.
Least Sandpiper: max 130 SCH 16 May.

Pectoral Sandpiper: max 5 Lysander 18 Apr.
Dunlin: FH 5 Apr, basic; max 76 OneIL 22 May.
Short-billed Dowitcher: SPd 20 May, only report.
Wilson's Snipe: max 50 SCH 11 Apr.
Bonaparte's Gull: max 245 OneIL 20 Apr.
Little Gull: ad OneIL 28 Apr.
Iceland Gull: 1-2 SL to 9 Apr; MADI landfill 30 Mar.
Lesser Black-backed Gull: SL 8 Apr; Skan 17 Apr; 2 OnonL 23 Apr; last OnonL 27 Apr.
Glaucous Gull: OnonL 13 Mar, 27 Apr; SL 8 Apr; last Bville 11 May.
Great Black-backed Gull: max 225 OnonL 20 Mar.
Caspian Tern: max 107 FH May.
Forster's Tern: DH 24 Apr; FH 14 May.
Black Tern: max 7 Salmon R 13 May.

PIGEONS - WOODPECKERS

Yellow-billed Cuckoo: arr 12 May, several sites; max 2 per day.
Black-billed Cuckoo: max 3 per day.
Snowy Owl: Salisbury 2 Apr; Skan 12 Apr; New Haven 20 May; OneIL 22 May.
Long-eared Owl: singles NMP 18 & 22 Apr.
N. Saw-whet Owl: Salisbury 4 Mar; Williamstown 16 May.
Com. Nighthawk: max 20 DH 27 May.
Whip-poor-will: arr Sterling 29 Apr, max 4 Constantia 16 May.
Ruby-throated Hummingbird: max 75 DH 16 May.
Red-headed Woodpecker: DH 9 May, only report.
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: max 16 NMP 18 Apr.
N. Flicker: max 320 DH 25 Apr; arr Adks 29 Mar.

FLYCATCHERS - WAXWINGS

Olive-sided Flycatcher: Erieville 13 May; Camden 30 May.
E. Wood-Pewee: max 6 WH 26 May.
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: Constantia 17 May; DH 19 May; SFNS 21 May.
Acadian Flycatcher: arr WH 14 May; Camillus 26 May.
Alder Flycatcher: max 6 Redfield 30 May.
Willow Flycatcher: max 6 SCH 23 May.
Least Flycatcher: max 13 NMP 16 May.
E. Phoebe: max 12 DH 2 Apr.
Great Crested Flycatcher: arr 26 Apr widespread.
E. Kingbird: max 30 DH 16 May.
N. Shrike: 4 reports, last DH 21 Apr.

Warbling Vireo: 13 OnonL 30 Apr, big early count.
Philadelphia Vireo: arr DH 6 May; HI 22 May, only reports.

Blue Jay: max 7000 DH 19 May.
Am. Crow: max 680 DH 16 Mar.
Fish Crow: DH 6 Apr; N Syr 29 Apr; Hannibal 22 May.
Com. Raven: max 12 Big Moose 26 Mar; Skan 7 May; found on L Ontario plain thru season.
Horned Lark: max 30 VB 15 Apr.
Purple Martin: max 30 Salmon R 13 May.
Brown Creeper: max 30 DH 22 Apr.
Winter Wren: arr Clinton 1 Apr.
Sedge Wren: LOL 5 May, only report.
Marsh Wren: max 17 CM 16 May.
Golden-crowned Kinglet: max 34 NMP 14 Apr.
Ruby-crowned Kinglet: DH 20 Mar, early (KW); max 50 NMP 25 Apr.
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher: max 9 WM 11 May.
Gray-cheeked Thrush: DH 16 May; SFNS 21 May; NMP 23 May.
Swainson's Thrush: max 8 NMP 16 May.
Hermit Thrush: max 19 NMP 18 Apr.
Wood Thrush: max 20 CM 16 May.
Brown Thrasher: max 5 per day LOL.
Am. Pipit: arr DH 8 Mar; max 50 VB 15 Apr.
Cedar Waxwing: max 1800 DH 27 May.

WARBLERS

Blue-winged Warbler: arr SFNS 27 Apr; 3 "Brewster's" reported.
Golden-winged Warbler: migrant DH 13 May; males on territory 6 sites.
Tennessee Warbler: max 16 NMP 16 May.
Orange-crowned Warbler: NMP 16 May (KM).
Nashville Warbler: max 12 NMP 8 May.
N. Parula: max 5 NMP 8 May.
Cape May Warbler: 3 NMP 8 May; max 10 NMP 13 May.
Yellow-rumped Warbler: max 65 NMP 8 May.
Black-throated Green Warbler: max 30 Scriba 13 May.
Pine Warbler: arr Old Forge 1 Apr, at suet feeder.
Prairie Warbler: Tully after 21 May, only report.
Palm Warbler: max 20 DH 30 Apr.
Bay-breasted Warbler: max 10 NMP 16 May.
Cerulean Warbler: arr NMP 13 May; max 5 WM 16 May.
Prothonotary Warbler: arr Three Mile Bay WMA 9 May.
N. Waterthrush: max 6 Labrador Hollow 2 May.

Louisiana Waterthrush: arr Pompey 15 Apr.
Hooded Warbler: arr 3 May; max 8 Sterling
16 May.
Wilson's Warbler: max 2 per day, few reports.

TANAGERS - WEAVERS

Am. Tree Sparrow: last Skan 19 Apr.
Clay-colored Sparrow: DH 7 May, only report.
Field Sparrow: arr 3 SR 3 Apr.
Vesper Sparrow: max 6 DH 10 Apr.
Grasshopper Sparrow: arr Hastings 30 Apr.
Fox Sparrow: arr W Winfield 25 Mar; max 20 SR 3 Apr; last NMP 21 Apr.
Lincoln's Sparrow: max 4 DH 18 May.
Swamp Sparrow: arr 5 Apr.
White-throated Sparrow: max 80 NMP 8 May.
White-crowned Sparrow: DH 16-28 Mar & 2 TR 16 Mar, wintering birds.
Dark-eyed Junco: max 60 NMP 22 Apr.
Lapland Longspur: Port Byron 8 Mar, only report.
Snow Bunting: last 4 DH 27 Mar.

Rose-breasted Grosbeak: max 12 NMP 8 May.
Indigo Bunting: max 20 DH 12 May.
Rusty Blackbird: max 190 SCH 22 Mar, last NMP 15 May.
Com. Grackle: max 500,000 Lysander 22 Mar.
Orchard Oriole: arr Pompey 25 Apr, early; max 4 Green L SP 9 May; 13 for season.
Baltimore Oriole: max 150 DH 13 May.
Purple Finch: max 30 DH 20 Apr.
Red Crossbill: max 10 Fabius 15 May; 2 Camden 30 May.
White-winged Crossbill: max 25 Fabius 13 Mar; 20 Green L SP 10 Apr.
Com. Redpoll: max 490 DH 17 Mar; last Camden 19 Apr.
Pine Siskin: max 1510 DH 20 Apr; fledglings noted in mid-May.
Evening Grosbeak: 2 DeRuyter 7 Mar; Camden 5 Apr; 2 DH 25 Apr.

Corrigendum: *Kingbird* 58(3):275 – Derby Hill Hawk Migration Total should be “46,028” instead of “62,992”.

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REGION 6—ST. LAWRENCE

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The mean March temperature in Watertown was 42.1° F, 1.4° above normal, and precipitation was 2.4", 0.5" below normal. April's mean temperature of 55.3° was 1.5° above normal, and the 3.9" of precipitation that fell was 0.9" above normal. May's mean temperature of 66.5° matched the normal mean temperature for the month exactly, but the 6.4" of precipitation that fell was 3.1" above normal.

As is often the case, migration was notably episodic, with periods of moderate to heavy migration coinciding with brief warm spells and more modest movements occurring during the intervening cooler periods when winds were generally from an unfavorable direction. Two of these warm spells brought multiple species to the Region at record early dates. The first of these warm periods was 2-3 April, when American Bittern, Osprey, and Yellow-bellied

Sapsucker tied or set new early arrival dates. More impressively, an unprecedented warm spell 24-28 April, during which the temperature topped out at 88° F on 27 April, brought a massive influx of birds into northern New York. Included among the more than 30 new arrivals that appeared during this warm period were 11 species that tied or set early arrival records for Region 6. Not surprisingly, the overall mean arrival date for all species for which arrival dates are tracked annually ($n = 93$) was 24 April, a full five days earlier than the overall mean for the years 1961 through 2009.

The heaviest goose migration occurred 7-17 March, especially 16-17 March, when several rare geese were spotted in large flocks of Snow and Canada geese. On 16 March one **Cackling Goose** was observed flying over Fort Drum in a flock of Canada Geese. The following day a **Greater White-fronted Goose** was in a mixed flock of about 650 Canada and Snow Geese, and two **Ross's Geese** were in a flock of about 260 Snow Geese. The only Brant report was of a flock flying over Fort Drum on 12 May. Among the highlights of the duck migration were Barrow's Goldeneye at Fisher's Landing and Hawkins Point, good numbers of Long-tailed Ducks and Red-breasted Mergansers on the upper St. Lawrence River, and relatively large numbers of American Wigeon, Green-winged Teal, and Ring-necked Ducks.

A Peregrine Falcon first seen on the Barnhart Island Bridge in Massena during the winter continued through the end of May. Perhaps Peregrines are nesting on this bridge or one of the nearby dams, although no nest or nesting behavior was reported. Merlin reports were slightly down from last year, but numbers were well above what was reported just a few years ago. Golden Eagles were seen over Limerick Cedars on 15 March and Potsdam on 25 April.

Shorebirds were reported in characteristically dismal numbers, with very few species represented and no rarities. Upland Sandpipers continue to be scarce, with only three reports. Up to five Sandhill Cranes were observed daily in Ellisburg and Henderson cornfields during late March and early April. An apparent pair spent the summer of 2008 in this immediate area, and at least some observers saw what they believed to be courtship behavior this year, but no cranes were observed after early April.

Most of the Region's white-winged gull reports come from St. Lawrence County, so reports of Iceland and Glaucous gulls from the Cape Vincent area were welcome. Surely these species occur in Jefferson County more frequently than reports indicate. The most impressive larid report, however, was the **188** Black Terns that Chris Wood and Jessie Barry counted at Perch River WMA on 17 May.

Most of the winter's Snowy Owls apparently left the area by the beginning of March, with a few stragglers continuing into the second week of that month. However, a Snowy Owl found in Clayton on 16 April was still present at the end of May and was seen by many observers. Migrating Short-eared Owls were reported from Canton and Massena. Most wood warbler species arrived early, and the 14 species that arrived in April are certainly more than usually occur in the Region during the month, probably more than have ever been documented during April. The most noteworthy species of the season was an Orange-

crowned Warbler at Indian Creek Nature Center on 2 May, marking the third consecutive year this species has been found at this location. Also noteworthy was Blackpoll Warbler, which many observers reported seeing in larger than usual numbers. Wilson's Warblers also seemed more numerous than usual.

Irruptive finches and waxwings continued from the winter, although generally in reduced numbers. Flocks of up to 300 Bohemian Waxwings remained in St. Lawrence County through early April, with the last sighting occurring during the second week of the month. Pine Grosbeaks were scarce by the beginning of March, with the last sighting coming from Fort Drum on 13 March. Both Red and White-winged Crossbills were present in generally low numbers, and nesting was not documented. Pine Siskins were common for much of the reporting period, with scattered nesting records from all portions of the Region.

Other notable passersines included six Blue-gray Gnatcatchers along the boundary between Southwick Beach State Park and Lakeview WMA, more than is usually reported from the Region during an entire year; two reports of Gray-cheeked Thrush, a species that usually passes through Region 6 undetected in the spring; and an early Orchard Oriole on 25 April in St. Lawrence County, where this species is rare. Gerry Smith found a **Dickcissel** in Hammond for the second consecutive year.

For the season I received reports of 222 species, which is three below the total reported in 2008 but well above the tally from most previous seasons. Highlights were the impressive numbers of geese in March, including several rare species, and the huge wave of early migrants that appeared in late April. On the negative side was the exceptionally low number of shorebirds even from a Region that has had low numbers for many years.

CONTRIBUTORS

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ABBREVIATIONS

BI – Barnhart Island, T Massena STLA; BRV – Black River Valley LEWI; CB – Chaumont Barrens Preserve, T Clayton JEFF; CV – Cape Vincent JEFF; FL – Fisher's Landing, T Orleans JEFF; FD – Fort Drum Military Reservation; ICNC – Indian Creek Nature Center, T Canton STLA; LPd – Leonard Pond trail, T Colton STLA; LWMA – Lakeview WMA, T Ellisburg JEFF; MM – Massawepie Mire, Piercefield and Colton; PtPen – Pt Peninsula, T Lyme JEFF; PRWMA – Perch River WMA, T Orleans JEFF; SBSP – Southwick Beach SP, T Ellisburg JEFF; SH – Sackett's Harbor JEFF; SLR – Saint Lawrence River;

ULLWMA – Upper and Lower Lakes WMA, T Canton STLA; TP – Tibbets Pt, T Cape Vincent JEFF; WHWMA – Wilson Hill WMA.

WHISTLING-DUCKS - VULTURES

GREATER WHITE-FRONTED GOOSE (R6): in mixed flock 650 Snow & Canada Geese FD 17 Mar (JBo).

Snow Goose: max 20,000 Brownville 16 Mar.
ROSS'S GOOSE (R6): 2 in flock 260 Snow Geese FD 17 Mar (JBo).

CACKLING GOOSE (R6): "Richardson's" FD 16 Mar (JBo).

Brant: 25 over FD 12 May.

Trumpeter Swan: no reports away from PRWMA.

Tundra Swan: 2 PRWMA 14 Apr.

Am. Wigeon: arr Ellisburg 16 Mar.

Blue-winged Teal: arr ICNC 5 Apr.

N. Shoveler: max 9 BRV 2 Apr.

N. Pintail: arr SH 15 Mar.

Green-winged Teal: arr Ellisburg 16 Mar; max 155 BRV 2 Apr.

Canvasback: Three Mile Pt. 17 Mar, only report.

Redhead: max 11 WHWMA 18 Apr.

Ring-necked Duck: arr FL 7 Mar; max 402 PtPen 20 Mar.

Greater Scaup: max 35 PRWMA 19 Apr.

Lesser Scaup: max 60 PRWMA 19 Apr.

Long-tailed Duck: max 1150 SLR CV 20 Mar.

Bufflehead: max 58 FL 20 Mar; last ULLWMA 26 Apr.

Com. Goldeneye: last SLR Louisville 18 Apr.

Barrow's Goldeneye: BI 7 Mar; ad m TP 27 Mar (NL).

Red-breasted Merganser: max 670 SLR CV 20 Mar.

Com. Loon: arr SH 3 Apr.

Pied-billed Grebe: arr ULLWMA 28 Mar.

Horned Grebe: 2 ULLWMA 25 Apr.

Red-necked Grebe: ULLWMA 25 Apr & 2 May.

Am. Bittern: arr Rossie 2 Apr, earliest on record.

Least Bittern: 2 FD 29 Apr; LWMA 30 Apr.

Great Blue Heron: arr Canton 10 Mar.

Green Heron: arr FD 28 Apr.

Black-crowned Night-Heron: 2 PRWMA 17 May, only report.

Turkey Vulture: arr Watertown 11 Mar.

HAWKS - ALCIDS

Osprey: arr PRWMA 2 Apr, ties early arrival record.

N. Harrier: arr CV 13 Mar.

N. Goshawk: FD 2 Apr.

Red-shouldered Hawk: arr Henderson 16 Mar.

Broad-winged Hawk: arr FD 22 Apr.

Rough-legged Hawk: max 26 PtPen & CV 1 Mar; last FD 29 Apr.

Golden Eagle: Limerick Cedars 15 Mar; Potsdam 25 Apr.

Merlin: LWMA 30 May a late migrant; 7 other reports.

Peregrine Falcon: BI thru 28 May; Antwerp 4 May; LWMA 30 May, a late migrant.

Virginia Rail: arr ULLWMA 18 Apr.

Sora: arr FD 28 Apr.

Com. Moorhen: arr PRWMA 24 Apr; max 23 PRWMA 13 May.

Am. Coot: PRWMA 14, 24 Apr.

Sandhill Crane: arr Ellisburg 22 Mar (CB); up to 5 per day Ellisburg and Henderson cornfields 23 Mar to 5 Apr (mob).

Killdeer: arr many locations 15 Mar.

Greater Yellowlegs: arr Alexandria 14 Apr; max 9 ULLWMA 25 Apr.

Solitary Sandpiper: FD 12 May, only report.

Spotted Sandpiper: arr FD 26 Apr.

Upland Sandpiper: arr Canton 25 Apr; FD 30 Apr; CV 8 May; Brownville 17 May; late May reports from Hammond, Hounsfield, & Macomb.

Least Sandpiper: arr Madrid 23 May.

Wilson's Snipe: arr BRV & FD 2 Apr.

Am. Woodcock: arr ULLWMA 17 Mar.

Bonaparte's Gull: Carthage 18 May, only report.

Ring-billed Gull: arr FD 26 Feb.

Iceland Gull: Ogdensburg 6 Mar; TP 27 Mar to 28 Apr.

Glaucous Gull: CV 7 Mar; 2 Ogdensburg 13 Mar.

Caspian Tern: arr CV 13 Apr.

Com. Tern: arr ULLWMA 26 Apr.

Black Tern: arr PRWMA 6 May; max 188 PRWMA 17 May (CW, JBa).

PIGEONS - WOODPECKERS

Yellow-billed Cuckoo: arr FD 15 May.

Black-billed Cuckoo: arr FD & ICNC 15 May.

Snowy Owl: early Mar reports from CV & Leray; Clayton 16 Apr thru (MJ, mob).

Short-eared Owl: Canton 17 Mar; 2 Massena 16 Apr.

Com. Nighthawk: arr FD 6 May, early; next report FD 29 May.

Whip-poor-will: arr FD 24 Apr.

Chimney Swift: arr CV 3 May.

Ruby-throated Hummingbird: arr Canton 2 May, earliest arrival on record.
Belted Kingfisher: arr ULLWMA 11 Apr.
Red-headed Woodpecker: arr FD 30 Apr; Hammond mid-May thru.
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: arr FD 2 Apr, earliest arrival on record.
N. Flicker: arr FD 30 Mar.

FLYCATCHERS - WAXWINGS

Olive-sided Flycatcher: Wanakena 23-25 May; Constableville 25 May; FD 28 May.
E. Wood-Pewee: arr FD 22 May.
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: FD 25 May.
Alder Flycatcher: arr FD 13 May.
Willow Flycatcher: arr FD 18 May.
Least Flycatcher: arr FD 27 Apr, ties early arrival record.
E. Phoebe: arr Wellesley Is 31 Mar.
Great Crested Flycatcher: arr FD 28 Apr, ties early arrival record
E. Kingbird: arr FD 26 Apr.
N. Shrike: last Canton 9 Apr.
Yellow-throated Vireo: arr Dekalb 2 May.
Blue-headed Vireo: arr FD 26 Apr.
Warbling Vireo: arr FD 26 Apr, ties early arrival record.
Red-eyed Vireo: arr Dekalb 10 May.
Purple Martin: arr Canton 22 Apr.
Tree Swallow: arr ULLWMA 31 Mar.
N. Rough-winged Swallow: arr ICNC 25 Apr.
Bank Swallow: arr FD 27 Apr.
Cliff Swallow: arr Louisville 2 May.
Barn Swallow: arr Waddington 18 Apr.
Carolina Wren: Canton 28 Mar.
House Wren: arr CV & FD 28 Apr.
Winter Wren: several LPd 8 Apr.
Sedge Wren: no reports.
Marsh Wren: arr Canton 3 May.
Ruby-crowned Kinglet: arr ULLWMA 18 Apr; last FD 6 May.
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher: arr FD 28 Apr; max 6 SBSP & LWMA.
E. Bluebird: arr Ellisburg 16 Mar.
Veery: arr FD 4 May.
Swainson's Thrush: arr FD 14 May; CV 20 May; Canton 24 May.
Gray-cheeked Thrush: Canton 26 May; LWMA 30 May.
Hermit Thrush: arr FD 21 Apr.
Wood Thrush: arr FD 28 Apr.
Gray Catbird: arr FD 28 Apr, earliest on record.
N. Mockingbird: TP 24 Apr; CV 2 May; Lyme 15 May.
Brown Thrasher: arr FD 17 Apr.
Bohemian Waxwing: max 285 Canton 7 Mar; last 100 Potsdam 9 Apr.

Cedar Waxwing: uncommon until mid Apr, when major arrival occurred.

WARBLERS

Blue-winged Warbler: arr FD 28 Apr.
Golden-winged Warbler: arr FD 28 Apr.
"Brewster's" Warbler: 1-3 per day FD late May.
Tennessee Warbler: arr FD 13 May.
Orange-crowned Warbler: ICNC 2 May (JBo).
Nashville Warbler: arr Theresa 26 Apr, earliest on record.
N. Parula: arr CV 2 May.
Yellow Warbler: arr FD 26 Apr, earliest on record.
Chestnut-sided Warbler: arr FD 28 Apr, ties record early arrival date.
Magnolia Warbler: arr ICNC 8 May.
Cape May Warbler: ICNC 8 May; Canton 29 May.
Black-throated Blue Warbler: arr Theresa 26 Apr, earliest on record.
Yellow-rumped Warbler: arr PRWMA 19 Apr.
Black-throated Green Warbler: arr FD 27 Apr.
Blackburnian Warbler: arr Canton 10 May.
Pine Warbler: arr Canton 11 Apr.
Prairie Warbler: arr CB 6 May.
Palm Warbler: "Yellow" on territory MM by 17 Apr; "Western" FD 29 Apr & 4 May.
Bay-breasted Warbler: arr FD 14 May.
Blackpoll Warbler: arr CV 20 May; max 30+ FD 29 May.
Cerulean Warbler: arr Dekalb 3 May; 4 Lonesome Bay SF Hammond 24 May (NL).
Black-and-white Warbler: arr FD 25 Apr.
Am. Redstart: arr Dekalb 2 May.
Ovenbird: arr FD 27 Apr, earliest on record.
N. Waterthrush: arr CV 25 Apr, earliest on record.
Louisiana Waterthrush: arr Theresa 26 Apr, only report.
Mourning Warbler: arr FD 18 May.
Com. Yellowthroat: arr FD 28 Apr, earliest on record.
Hooded Warbler: prob. breeding 2 locations Ellisburg 20 May.
Wilson's Warbler: arr CB & FD 18 May; FD 18-19 & 28 May; 2 CV 20 May; Canton 24-25 May; LWMA 30 May; ICNC 31 May.
Canada Warbler: arr FD 8 May.

TANAGERS - WEAVERS

Scarlet Tanager: arr Russell 3 May.
E. Towhee: arr FD 17 Apr.
Am. Tree Sparrow: last Mannsville 19 Apr.

Chipping Sparrow: arr Louisville 18 Apr.
Clay-colored Sparrow: arr FD 28 Apr, early.
Field Sparrow: arr FD 6 Apr.
Vesper Sparrow: arr FD 13 Apr.
Savannah Sparrow: arr CV 8 Apr.
Grasshopper Sparrow: arr FD 28 Apr.
Henslow's Sparrow: arr FD 28 Apr.
Fox Sparrow: arr FD 2 Apr; last ICNC 25 Apr.
Song Sparrow: arr FD 17 Mar.
Lincoln's Sparrow: many on territory MM by 11 May.
Swamp Sparrow: arr FD 9 Apr.
White-throated Sparrow: arr FD 19 Apr.
White-crowned Sparrow: arr CV 29 Mar; last LWMA 30 May.
Snow Bunting: max 600 Leray 4 Mar.
Rose-breasted Grosbeak: arr CV & FD 28 Apr.
Indigo Bunting: arr FD 16 May.
DICKCISSEL (R6): Hammond 17 May (GS).
Bobolink: arr CV 2 May.
E. Meadowlark: arr Clayton 15 Mar.

Rusty Blackbird: arr Canton 9 Apr; max 148 ICNC 19 Apr; 85 ICNC 2 May; last ICNC 8 May.
Com. Grackle: arr Clayton 7 Mar.
Brown-headed Cowbird: arr CV 13 Mar.
Orchard Oriole: ICNC 25 Apr, rare STLA, early.
Baltimore Oriole: arr FD 29 Apr.
Pine Grosbeak: last FD 13 Mar.
Purple Finch: scarce until 2 Apr, fairly common thereafter.
Red Crossbill: 18 FD 15 Apr.
White-winged Crossbill: 6 reports FD 13 Mar to 25 May; 8 BRV 2 Apr.
Com. Redpoll: last ICNC 19 Apr.
Pine Siskin: widespread and numerous thru early May; breeding confirmed during Apr in scattered locations throughout Region; scarce after 10 May.
Evening Grosbeak: 2 Brasher Falls 29 Apr, scarce outside Adirondacks.

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REGION 7—ADIRONDACK-CHAMPLAIN

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The season began with -5° F at Inlet on 1 March, 4.5" of snow at Ausable Forks on the 2nd, and -13° at Saranac Lake on the 4th. Temperatures then rose to 52° at lower elevations on 11 March and again reached the 50s on 15-17 March. By month's end, Elizabethtown was 58° on the 27th and the Champlain Valley was a balmy 68° the following day. Early April saw some rain and snow, but there was no significant monthly rainfall after the first week. Plattsburgh sweltered at an unseasonal 92° on 27 April. May was largely pleasant, with prevailing southerly winds, but the pattern was broken by torrential rains on 9 May and cold rain with strong winds on the 14th that brought over 4" of precipitation to many areas. Southern Hamilton County received 5" with 50 mph winds that day, washing out roads and stranding visitors in Perkins Clearing. Elizabethtown saw a high of 94° on 21 May. Three days of heavy rains began 27 May, and by the 29th Schroon Lake had received 3.75". The season closed on a blustery note, with 50 mph winds, rain, and a major temperature drop on 31 May, bringing snow showers to Inlet. Lake Champlain rose from 96.41' on 1 March to a high of

98.80' on 10 April, before an early drop, falling to 97.27 at season's end.

Spring '09 was most noteworthy for the large and unprecedented number of record early arrivals. This was most apparent among the warblers, with 14 species arriving in April, but extended to a wide variety of birds. At least 40 county and a dozen Regional arrival records were broken, and another nine county and four Regional arrivals tied their early dates. A relatively dry and mild April was undoubtedly responsible for the number of records that fell or were tied, but the moderate spring itself may be a cause for concern, given long term warming trends. Similarly, the increased variety of southern species appearing here is also suggestive of moderating global temperatures. Regional observers may wish to update their county bird books and remain alert for other record early arrivals or late departures in future seasons, as we try to document and understand these increasingly rapid changes.

The Adirondack Osprey population remained relatively stable between the two Atlas projects, at about 20-40 pairs, although nesting along Champlain was confirmed during the second. This spring saw a great leap forward along the lake, with nests appearing on platforms and power poles almost everywhere. The powerline at the neck of Crown Point peninsula supported a row of new nests, one of which caught fire and caused a major National Grid power outage. Now that Bald Eagle has a nesting toehold in the Champlain Valley, a similar success is conceivable. Merlin now nest in all four counties, while most Peregrine Falcon aeries are still concentrated in Essex County.

The Crown Point banding station was in operation for the thirty-fourth consecutive season between 8-25 May. The modest totals of 57 species and 457 individual birds were a slight improvement over May '08 (51 sp., 384 birds), but below usual expectations. Notable by their absence were Yellow-rumped Warblers, with no major waves and just 20 banded. Warbler variety was a respectable 17 banded species, but short of the record 23 species in '07. The weather may have been a bit too pleasant, with few northerly winds or showers to ground migrants. The best three days for variety, with 18 species each were a stormy 9 May; 18 May, when winds shifted to northerly; and 24 May, when winds again shifted from south to north. A Pileated Woodpecker on 17 May was the fifth banded since '97. Two Prairie Warbler were near the northern edge of their range. And three Eastern Towhees banded set a new station record. Other notable species seen or heard, but not banded, included up to eight Bald Eagles at a time, Black-billed Cuckoo, Common Nighthawk, Northern Mockingbird, Blue-winged Warbler, and Orchard Oriole. The NYS DEC reportedly postponed any cormorant shooting until June, and then only if birds gathered at the spit were nesting. This had not occurred by 25 May when banding ended. Four representatives of OPRHP from Albany and Saratoga Springs paid site visits to discuss habitat enhancement and invasive plant control with members of the Crown Point Banding Association and Historic Site staff. Since 1976, a total of 15,439 birds of 99 species (plus additional subspecies or other forms) have been banded on the grounds of the State Historic Site.

The Pine Siskin invasion continued, with another 1,276 banded at Elizabethtown and Inlet between 1 March-7 May, for a total of **1,922** banded in

the Region since 12 December '08. These included 40 more attractive green morphs and several equally striking gray morphs. Adults were in breeding condition by late April, with the first young appearing at feeders during May, but nest-building continued into late May. The number of other winter finches banded was greatly outnumbered by the siskins: 98 Purple Finch, 18 Common Redpoll, 239 American Goldfinch, and 21 Evening Grosbeak. There were two lowland reports of Pine Grosbeak, House Finch was confined to the Champlain Valley, and crossbills were limited to two lowland reports of Red and four reports of White-winged, half of those from lower elevations as well.

Although the record early arrivals comprised the principal feature of the season, observers also reported a number of rarities. The **Northern Hawk Owl** in Peru, present from 14 December, remained until 15 March, while the second **Northern Hawk Owl** in Champlain, present from 15 February, lingered until 28 March. Several other birds in the list that follows are especially rare in the Adirondack-Champlain Region, including **Great Cormorant** (fourth Regional record since 1982), **Black Vulture** (third record since 1968), and **Cerulean Warbler** (sixth record since 1983). A total of 217 species was reported, just short of the 1997 record of 219 species.

CONTRIBUTORS

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ABBREVIATIONS

AP – Ausable Pt; BB – Bloomingdale Bog; CH – Cumberland Head; CR – Chazy Riverlands; CRF – Cedar R Flow; FB – Ferd's Bog; FBI – Four Brothers Isl; KB – King's Bay; LA – L Alice; LP – L Placid; NP – Noblewood Pk; PS – Paul Smiths; PtF – Pt au Fer; PtR – Pt au Roche; RP – Rouses Point; SC – Scomotion Cr; SL – Saranac L; SLHS – Saranac L High School; TL – Tupper L; WB – Whallon's Bay; WM – Wickham Marsh.

WHISTLING-DUCKS - VULTURES

Snow Goose: max ~5-10 thousand T Champlain 7 Mar (JP); last NP 4 May (WS).
Brant: arr 6 CR 8 May (BK), only report.
Canada Goose: max 500+ RP 26 Mar (WS); 70 CP 24 May (GH,JP), flying north; 50 Inlet 31 May (GL), flying west.
Tundra Swan: AP 27-28 Mar (EF)-29 Mar (TA,BK,DL), with Canada Geese.
Wood Duck: arr SLHS 26 Mar (TD), ties early FRAN.
Gadwall: arr m L Flower 24 Mar (TD), early FRAN; 2 RP 26 Mar; CR 13 Apr (WS); pr CR 30 Apr-28 May (BK), a scarce duck here.
Am. Wigeon: arr AP 22 Mar (WS,EDT); max 14 RP 26 Mar; CR 13 Apr (WS), similarly scarce.
N. Shoveler: 10 CR 20 May (CH), only report.
N. Pintail: max 32 RP 26 Mar; CR 13 Apr (WS); CR 29 Apr (MAMC).
Green-winged Teal: arr pr Plattsburgh 26 Mar (CH) & 9 RP same day (WS); 2 AP 28 Mar (DL); max 30 CR 13 Apr (WS); "many" CR 29 Apr (MAMC).
Redhead: 4 RP 26 Mar (WS), only report.
Ring-necked Duck: max 100+ RP 26 Mar (WS).
Lesser Scaup: arr Pt Kent 14 Mar (J&PT), early ESSE, ties Reg 7; Plattsburgh 22 Apr (CH).
White-winged Scoter: arr 2 Raquette R, TL 15 Apr (CD); CR 30 May (JO), 3rd spring record CLIN.
Black Scoter: ~100 PtR 4:50 pm, 26 May (CH), heard before seen, flying n. past beach, 1st spring record CLIN.
Long-tailed Duck: AP 29 Apr-4 May (WS), late CLIN.
Barrow's Goldeneye: WM 15 Mar (MAMC), nice find.
Com. Merganser: max 2500 CP 8 Apr (TM), high ESSE.
Ruddy Duck: 2 L Eaton 22 Apr (WL), 2nd record HAMI.
Pied-billed Grebe: arr KB 18 Apr (EF); later reports AP; LA; WM, but undoubtedly in other marshes.
Horned Grebe: last CH 29 Apr (BK).
Red-necked Grebe: CH 27 Apr (SJ,BK), only report.
Double-crested Cormorant: arr Plattsburgh 3 Apr (CH); 5 TL 26 Apr (CD), record high FRAN; max 300 CP spit 20 May (GH,JP), no nests; Auger L 29 May (GH), still unusual on inland waters.
GREAT CORMORANT: AP 3 May (J&PT), early CLIN & Reg 7; flying n. with ~8 Double-crested Cormorant, 4th record CLIN & Reg 7

since 1982.

Least Bittern: arr AP 12 May (BK,CM); 2 sites SC 26 May (NO), good finds.

Great Egret: arr PtF 8 Apr (D&TG), early CLIN; Westport 8 Apr (TM); Hogansburg 18 Apr (HW).

BLACK VULTURE: soaring over SLHS 12 Apr (TD), 2nd FRAN, 3rd Reg 7 record.

Turkey Vulture: max 22 CP kettle 21 May (GL); pr Rand Hill, T Beekmantown 25 May (BB), nesting in barn.

HAWKS - ALCIDS

Osprey: nests AP; Coopersville; CP; Essex; Harkness; SC; WM, with explosion in Champlain Valley population; semicolonial on CP powerline in May.

Bald Eagle: nest T Chesterfield active Apr (NYS DEC); max 7 subad + ad CP kettle 10 May (GL,JP); ~30 other sightings, most from Champlain shoreline.

N. Goshawk: arr McCollums 2 Mar (TD), early FRAN.

Red-tailed Hawk: Limekiln L 2 Apr (GL), early HAMI.

Rough-legged Hawk: 3 Coon Mt, T Westport hawkwatch 9 Mar (EKT), northbound migrants; last 2 CP 15 Mar (J&PT).

Golden Eagle: FB 19 Apr (ZW); ad Keeseville 22 Apr (DCR), imm PS 26 Apr (JC); ad Ausable Forks 7 May (DCR), always welcome.

Merlin: arr L Abanakee 11 Apr (M&WM), early HAMI, pr CH 2-5 Apr (EB,MD); pr Plattsburgh 11 Apr (TA), 3rd yr nesting; pr TL 10 May thru (CD), at old squirrel nest; others AP; T Beekmantown; CR; Inlet; LA; LL; New Russia; Peru; PS.

Peregrine Falcon: pr T Willsboro aerie 22 Mar (EDT); pr T Keene aerie 30 Mar (EKT); transient CR 23 Apr (BK); on eggs T Willsboro 9 May (LS), only suggestive of activity.

Virginia Rail: arr LA 26 Apr; max 4 AP 12 May (BK,CM); others SC & WM.

Com. Moorhen: arr PtF 30 Apr (BK); 2 AP 12 May (BK,CM); CR 18 May thru (BK), always nice.

Black-bellied Plover: arr 2 CR 21 May (BK); max 100+ CR 30 May (BK,JO), excellent count.

Semipalmated Plover: CR 28-30 May (BK), only report.

Killdeer: arr Plattsburgh 9 Mar (DL), in snowstorm.

Spotted Sandpiper: arr Feeder Pd, Moriah 25 Apr (CW), early ESSE.

Solitary Sandpiper: arr SLHS 2 May (TD); AP 4 May (WS); NP 9 May (MAMU,EKT); Ausable R, T Keene same day (J&PT),

normally scarce in spring.

Greater Yellowlegs: arr CR 2 Apr (WS), early CLIN & Reg 7; SLHS 26 Apr (TD); Barnum Pd 29 Apr (BM); AP 1-3 May (CH,JH); CR 28 May (BK), a good showing.

Lesser Yellowlegs: arr AP 8 May (BK), only report.

Red Knot: 2 alt CR 28-30 May (BK,JO), 1st CLIN since 2000.

Least Sandpiper: arr CR 16 May (BK); max 100+ CR 30 May (BK,CM), but no other reports.

Dunlin: arr 11 CR 28 May (BK); max 33 CR 30 May (BK,JO), a good spring shorebird.

Short-billed Dowitcher: CR 21 May (BK), only report.

Wilson's Snipe: max 12+ Raquette R early May (MAMu,EKT).

Am. Woodcock: arr T Beekmantown 17 Mar (NO); New Russia & Paradox 24 Mar (EKT); Peru 25 Mar (C&JH), relatively early.

Bonaparte's Gull: arr 50+ AP 29 Apr (E&WS); max 75 AP 4 May (WS).

Ring-billed Gull: y banded Isl "C" FBI 12 Jun '93 (JP) found dead Bethel, VT 21 Mar, aged 15 yrs, 9 mos.; ad with dyed pink breast CP 22 May (GH,GL), study unknown.

Glaucous Gull: 1st winter Pt Henry 15 Mar (LL,BM,TM), late ESSE.

Caspian Tern: arr AP 29 Apr (E&WS)-3 May (MAMc); NP 4 May (WS)-9 May (MAMu,EKT); CR 20 May (CH)-30 May (BK,JO); 2 Monty Bay 26 May (CH), now well-established on Champlain.

Black Tern: arr 3 PtF 8 May (BK), only report.

Com. Tern: arr PtF 15 May (D&TG); max 28

CR 11 May (BK).

PIGEONS - WOODPECKERS

Black-billed Cuckoo: m CP 21 May (GL), only report.

N. HAWK OWL: T Peru to 15 Mar (CB), present from 14 Dec '08; T Champlain to 28 Mar (D&TG), present from 15 Feb, both enjoyed by the many who now owe NYSARC reports.

Com. Nighthawk: arr Cadyville 7 May (BK); CP 14 May (GL); max 4 Altona 26 May (NO).

Whip-poor-will: arr Willsboro Bay 27 Apr (LS); 2 Terry Mt 30 Apr (CH); 2 Trembleau Mt 5 May (DCR); max 3 Altona 26 May (NO); Witherbee 30 May (CW); 2 Peasleeveville 31 May; 3 Peru same day (EF), encouraging.

Belted Kingfisher: arr Trout Pd 15 Mar (EDT); Inlet 20 Mar (GL), early HAMI.

Red-headed Woodpecker: SL, FRAN 25 May (EW), now rarely reported.

Red-bellied Woodpecker: Fornier Rd, T

Beekmantown 3 Mar & 26 Apr (BK), where found 22 Jan.

Am. Three-toed Woodpecker: transient f Brainard's Forge Rd, Elizabethtown 2 May (PB).

Black-backed Woodpecker: residents BB; Bigelow Rd; Brown's Tract Stream; FB; PS; presumed transient SLHS 6 May (TD).

Pileated Woodpecker: f CP 17 May (JP), 5th banded there since '97, indicative of continued reforestation of land cleared for forts & settlements in 18th century and farmed in the 19th-early 20th centuries.

FLYCATCHERS - WAXWINGS

E. Wood-Pewee: arr AP 19 May (BK), ties early CLIN.

Willow Flycatcher: arr WM 16 May (EDT), early ESSE & Reg 7; The Gulf 20 May (JH), early CLIN; CH 29 May (NO), still rarely reported.

Great Crested Flycatcher: record 7 banded CP 14-24 May, plus banded '08 return 18 May; see Pileated Woodpecker comment.

E. Kingbird: arr Plattsburgh 30 Apr (CH), early CLIN, ties early Reg 7.

N. Shrike: T Peru 7 Mar (DS,SS); New Russia to 21 Mar (MAMu,EKT).

Yellow-throated Vireo: arr AP 12 May (BK), but only report.

Philadelphia Vireo: arr SLHS 16 May (TD); CH 24 May (NO); Boreas R 28 May (JN); singing in LA 31 May (J&PT), good finds.

Gray Jay: BB; Bigelow Rd; Brown's Tract Stream; California Rd, FB; Floodwood Rd; PS, usual locales.

Horned Lark: Seventh L 12 Mar (GL); 2 Rte 30, IL 11 Apr (M&WM), uncommon visitant HAMI.

Barn Swallow: arr CRF 11 Apr (M&WM), early HAMI.

Boreal Chickadee: BB, Bigelow Rd, known locales.

Tufted Titmouse: AP; CH; Elizabethtown; Inlet; Peru; Pt Henry; Pt Kent; SL; Ticonderoga; Westport; Witherbee, only indicative.

Carolina Wren: 2 Westport 15 Mar (BM), still a scarce species here.

Ruby-crowned Kinglet: max 30 Pt Kent 26 Apr (DCR), high ESSE; banded CP 22 May, late transient.

Blue-gray Gnatcatcher: arr NP 16 May (EDT); LA 17 May (MAMc), fewer in recent years.

Veery: arr SLHS 25 Apr (TD), early FRAN, ties early Reg 7; PtF 4 May (BK), early CLIN.

Bicknell's Thrush: arr Lyon Mt 26 May (JH),

early CLIN; 2-6 Cascade Mt 30 May (CB,AG).
Swainson's Thrush: arr Oregon Plains Rd 25 Apr (TD), early FRAN & Reg 7.

Wood Thrush: arr Petrova Ave, SL 25 Apr (TD), early FRAN.

Am. Robin: max ~500+ n FRAN 5 Apr (BM).

Gray Catbird: arr AP 3 May (JH,MAMc), early CLIN.

N. Mockingbird: AP 26 Mar (BK); LP 29 Apr (LM); Ticonderoga 2 May (JG); singing m CP 17-25 May; Plattsburgh 24 May (JH).

Am. Pipit: arr CR 4 May (BK); SLHS 8 May (TD), only reports.

Bohemian Waxwing: max 200 T Peru 2-4 Mar (LM,JR); T Champlain 4 Mar (LM); 3 CP 7 Mar (J&PT); T Peru 10 Mar (JP); 50 Plattsburgh 14-17 Mar (CB); 30 Jay 15 Mar (CB); 40 Coon Mt 17 Mar (EKT); 100 Peru 5 Apr (EF); 110 CH 10 Apr (NO); Plattsburgh 21 Apr (BK), ending invasion that began 19 Nov '08.

WARBLEDERS

Blue-winged Warbler: arr CP 8 May (TB,GL,JP), ties early ESSE; CP 15 May (GL), still rare here.

Golden-winged Warbler: Essex 15 May (PB), also rare here.

Tennessee Warbler: arr CP 11 May (GL,JP), ties early ESSE; Wells 17 May (GL), early HAMI; banded CP 18 May, only reports.

Orange-crowned Warbler: River Rd, LP 30 May (LM,SO), late ESSE & Reg 7.

Nashville Warbler: arr L Durant 25 Apr (WL), early HAMI; PS 29 Apr (BM), ties early FRAN.

N. Parula: arr PtF 29 Apr (MAMc), early CLIN & Reg 7.

Yellow Warbler: arr AP 25 Apr (PJ), early CLIN & Reg 7; SLHS 2 May (TD), early FRAN.

Chestnut-sided Warbler: arr CH 2 May (SJ,BK), ties early CLIN & Reg 7.

Magnolia Warbler: arr AP 29 Apr (WS), early CLIN.

Cape May Warbler: arr AP 29 Apr (WS), early CLIN & Reg 7; singing m High Water Bridge, Phelps trail 2 May (DD), early ESSE; 2 banded CP 10-11 May (GH,GL,JP); PS 12 May (BM); LA 17 May (MAMc).

Black-throated Blue Warbler: arr PS 29 Apr (BM), early FRAN.

Black-throated Green Warbler: arr Keene 28 Apr (J&PT); SLHS same day (TD), early FRAN.

Prairie Warbler: m banded CP 12 May (GH,GL,JP); f banded CP 24 May (GL,JP), rare here.

Palm Warbler: singing m "Yellow" arr PS 19 Apr thru; BB 15 May (BM); transients AP & KB 29 Apr (MAMc,E&WS);

Bay-breasted Warbler: arr Keene 9 May (J&PT), early ESSE & Reg 7; CP 15 & 20 May.

Blackpoll Warbler: CP 13-22 May; Perkins Clearing & PS 17 May; Lyon Mt 26 May; CH 26-30 May; LA 30 May; River Rd, LP same day.

CERULEAN WARBLER: arr singing m LA 9 May (JO), early CLIN & Reg 7, to 30 May (BK,JO); two there 18 May (BK), 2nd CLIN & 6th Reg 7 record.

Ovenbird: arr Witherbee 27 Apr (CW), early ESSE.

N. Waterthrush: arr Chilson 30 Apr (DMR); T Dannemora 2 May (JH), ties early CLIN.

Mourning Warbler: arr Ray Brook 9 May (TD), early ESSE & Reg 7.

Com. Yellowthroat: arr Malone 30 Apr (NCR), early FRAN.

Wilson's Warbler: arr T Dannemora 9 May (JI), early CLIN & Reg 7; 3 banded CP 18-23 May; m Keene 22-23 May (J&PT).

Canada Warbler: arr Perkins Clearing 17 May (JN); SLHS 24 May (TD), ties early FRAN.

TANAGERS - WEAVERS

E. Towhee: arr Terry Mt 27 Apr (CH); m Peru 3 May (E&HF); 2 m, f banded CP 11-21 May (JP).

Chipping Sparrow: arr Inlet 29 Mar (GJ), early HAMI.

Clay-colored Sparrow: arr T Keene 30 Apr (J&PT), early ESSE & Reg 7.

Vesper Sparrow: TL 23 May (CD), uncommon in central Adks.

Savannah Sparrow: arr SLHS 27 Mar (TD), ties early FRAN.

Fox Sparrow: arr Inlet 5 Apr (GL); 2 banded Elizabethtown 9 Apr (JP); last 2 St. Joseph's cemetery, SL 5 May (TD); other reports AP; LL; PS; Pt Kent; PtR; SL; Ticonderoga, a strong flight.

Lincoln's Sparrow: 9 transients banded CP 9-24 May.

White-throated Sparrow: max 40 Pt Kent 26 Apr (DCR).

White-crowned Sparrow: imm Hogansburg feeder 1 Mar-27 Apr (HW), present from 29 Jan, with molt almost complete by late Apr; arr 2 more Hogansburg 27 Apr; Malone 29 Apr (NCR); Terry Mt same day (CH); Plattsburgh 1-3 May (EF,JH), banded Elizabethtown 3 May (JP); Pt Kent 5 May (DCR); Peru 8-16 May (EF); CH 11 May (NO); 2 banded CP 16-17 May, a good showing.

Indigo Bunting: arr TL 5 May (CD), arr

Redford same day (DF), early CLIN.

Rusty Blackbird: arr Inlet feeder 6 Apr (GL); AP 7 Apr (BG) & 1 May (CH); Malone 3 May (NR); LP mid-May (LM); LA 17 May; 3 T Keene 19 May (J&PT), all 4 counties, yet sparse.

Com. Grackle: CH 23 Apr (BK), schizochroic, with white central rectices.

Orchard Oriole: ad m CP 9 May (TB), ties early ESSE; singing m CP 23 May (GL,SP), only reports.

Baltimore Oriole: arr TL 4 May (CD), early FRAN.

Pine Grosbeak: 3 T Peru 2 Mar (JR); Champlain & T Peru 4 Mar (LM), last reports.

Purple Finch: Inlet, Newcomb, LL 15-20 Mar; 78 banded Inlet 29 Mar-7 May (GL); 20 banded Elizabethtown 3 Apr-3 May (JP), increased at lower elevations with return flight of migrants and local breeders.

House Finch: "numerous" Plattsburgh (JH); others CH; PtR; Ticonderoga.

Red Crossbill: Malone 28 Apr (NCR); Witherbee feeders 12 May (MA) & 15 May (CW), only reports.

White-winged Crossbill: T Peru 7 Mar (DS,SS); 2 Westport 15 Mar (BM); Oregon Plains Rd 15 Mar (CB); Inlet 31 May (GL), as

invasion wound down.

Com. Redpoll: 20 T Keene 1 Mar (J&PT); 18 banded Inlet 3-22 Mar (GL); 35 Peru 6 Mar (EF); 2 CH to 13 Mar (NO), only reports.

Pine Siskin: 926 banded Elizabethtown 1 Mar-8 May (JP); 350 banded Inlet 1 Mar-5 Apr (GL) [=1276 banded Spring '09]; **16 green morphs** banded E'town; **24 green morphs** banded Inlet; **2 gray morphs** banded E'town 3 Apr & 4 May; **gray morph** seen Inlet 2-3 Apr; brood patches & cloacal protuberances E'town from 21 Apr; copulation Peru 23 Apr (EF); recently fledged y E'town 3-31 May, still carrying nesting material Peru 25 May, remained most abundant winter finch.

Am. Goldfinch: 119 banded Elizabethtown 2 Mar-6 May (JP); 42 banded Inlet 1 Mar-5 Apr (GL); 78 banded CP 8-24 May [=239 banded Spring '09]; leucistic goldfinch Inlet 3 Apr; m banded E'town 5 May '08 found dead Mayfield, FULT 12 Apr; remained second in abundance to siskins.

Evening Grosbeak: 4 Elizabethtown 1 Mar (JP); SLHS same day (TD); 13 banded E'town 17 Mar-3 May (JP); 8 banded Inlet 2-27 Mar (GL); 6 Coon Mt 17 Mar (EKT); LL 10-14 Apr (JC), migrants & nesters increased Apr-May.

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REGION 8—HUDSON-MOHAWK

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Spring 2009 began slightly warmer than average and ended cloudy and rainy. After the first week of March lingering stream and pond ice melted due to daytime temperatures in the mid 50s F. The last snow of any significance fell on 9 March. April continued warm, ending 3° warmer than average and relatively dry, with nearly 2 fewer inches of rain than average. The last week of April ushered in temperatures in the upper 80s, reaching 90° on the 28th. This caused a very sudden leaf out across the Region. The last frost occurred on 13 April. Finally, May's temperatures hovered near historic averages, and monthly

rainfall was nearly a half inch above average spread out over many drizzly days. It rained on 18 days in May, particularly at the end of the month, reducing prey resources for aerial insect foragers such as swallows.

A few highlights enlivened the spring waterfowl list. Two **Greater White-fronted Geese** were spotted on farms in the Region. A single location maximum of **100** Long-tailed Duck on Lake George is a rare event in this Region, where we have insufficient bodies of water to attract large staging flocks of migrating waterfowl. The flybys of 250 Brant and 400 Snow Geese are typical numbers of these two globally increasing species. Birders found a migrating Barrow's Goldeneye this year and two out of the three scoter species.

A few of our subregional compilers have started to take a closer look at Ruffed Grouse reports, which will now and in the future be documented in this report more carefully. Both the Hudson Mohawk Birdline and the Alan Devoe Bird Club receive fewer reports of grouse each season, begging us to ask the question whether there is in fact a real decline in grouse numbers or just a decline in reported observations. This is always a central question we face as Regional editors, often without the help of statistics. Nevertheless, many important scientific discoveries start with qualitative impressions. The important research that linked worldwide declines in amphibians to an aquatic fungus, for example, began with field ecologists who had the general impression that certain species were harder to find. Are Ruffed Grouse declining due to habitat changes, predation, reduced fecundity, or are they in a trough of some multi-year boom-and-bust cycle? Are they declining at all? Are they becoming more abundant but in fewer places, such as the Rensselaer Hills and Catskills? We can't answer these questions with our seasonal observations alone, but what we can do is provide observations that might guide scientists and managers to formulate testable hypotheses and collect additional observations. One service this publication provides is recreational; it's fun to know who saw what and where. It also, in my opinion, can serve a larger function as a compilation of observations that can begin more rigorous inquiry about the status and biological health of New York's birdlife.

Mona Bearor discovered a **Little Blue Heron** on a small pond at the Pineview Cemetery in Queensbury, Saratoga County. The bird was photographed but did not tarry long enough for many others to see it.

Black Vultures are increasing nearly everywhere in the Northeast. We rarely see capital letters used to describe them anymore on Regional lists; however, a single location maximum of **eight** discovered in Crescent, Saratoga County, is the largest I've yet seen reported for our Region. Regular annual observations of Black Vultures at such places as the Taconic Highlands and Colarusso's Mine in Hudson, NY, suggest that nesting records will eventually come forth.

The unquestioned rarity of the season was a **Swallow-tailed Kite** that appeared briefly in Greenville, Green County on 17 May, likely an overshoot from migration that met an uncertain fate. It was not rediscovered.

Some lingering winter finches included several reports of White-winged Crossbills that tarried after a spectacular winter_{irruption}. Feeder watchers sent

in a few reports of Common Redpoll from the northern reaches of the Region, and a single large flock of **Bohemian Waxwings** was unexpected from Northumberland, Saratoga County. Pine Siskins ignored any convention that they should move north or to higher elevations with the arrival of spring. Reported throughout the Region into June, they were observed in courtship display in an around thistle feeders and suburban areas even as southern migrants arrived.

CONTRIBUTORS

Alan Devoe Bird Club monthly sighting reports, Larry Alden, Dave Baim, Hope Batchellor, Mona Bearor, Mimi Brauch, Alvin Breisch, Gerry Colburn, Frank Conley, Bill Cook, Larry Federman, Corey Finger, David Gibson, Elizabeth Grace, Jane Graves, Bernie Grossman, Richard Guthrie, David Harrison, Ron Harrower, John Hershey, Hudson-Mohawk Bird Club's Birdline of Eastern New York, John Kent, Nancy Kern, Eric Krantz, Bill Lee, Alan Mapes, Dave Martin, Andrew Mason, Matt Medler, Roger Miller, Frank Murphy, Gail & Rich Nord, Tom Palmer, Ellen Pemrick, Barb Putnam, Bob Ramonowski, Will Raup, Larry Rowland, John Saville, Susan Scheck, Scott Stoner, Vin Sturn, Joan Suriano, Bill & Marion Ulmer, Alison Van Keuren, Brad Walker, Carol & Owen Whitby, Phil Whitney, Tom Williams, Allan & Phyllis Wirth, Chad Witko, Will Yandik, Robert Yunick.

ABBREVIATIONS

BCM – Black Creek Marsh ALBA; FtE – T Fort Edwards WASH; HIL – T Hillsdale COLU; HR – Hudson R; PR – Partridge Run ALBA; VF – Vischer's Ferry SARA.

WHISTLING-DUCKS – VULTURES

GR. WHITE-FRONTED GOOSE: Ft Miller SARA 12 Mar; Northumberland SARA 15 Mar.
Snow Goose: max 400 FtE 20 Mar; last Collins L SCHE 20 May.
Brant: max 250 Austerlitz COLU 20 May.
Tundra Swan: Easton WASH 21-23 Mar; Wrights Loop SARA 5-16 Apr.
Wood Duck: arr HR Coxsackie GREE 8 Mar.
Gadwall: max 9 VF 28 Mar.
Am. Wigeon: max 25 VF 28 Mar.
Blue-winged Teal: arr VF 2 Apr.
N. Shoveler: VF 2-9 Apr.
N. Pintail: max 100 Ferry Drive SARA 8 Mar.
Green-winged Teal: arr Claverack COLU 9 Mar.
Canvasback: max 20 Germantown COLU 10 Mar, low numbers.
Redhead: arr Stillwater SARA 1 Mar.

Surf Scoter: Saratoga L SARA 16 May.

White-winged Scoter: arr 4mile Pt GREE 12 Mar.

Long-tailed Duck: VF 22 Apr; max 100 L George WARR 25 Apr.

Barrow's Goldeneye: Ft. Miller 10 Mar.

Red-breasted Merganser: arr Ft. Miller 24 Mar; max 4 Saratoga L SARA 26 Apr.

Ruddy Duck: arr 7 Tomhannock res RENS 19 Mar.

Ruffed Grouse: Copake COLU 8 Mar; 2 Galway SARA 11 Apr; Burnt Hills ALBA 17 Apr.

Com. Loon: arr Cheviot COLU 25 Mar.

Pied-billed Grebe: arr BCM 19 Mar.

Horned Grebe: Hillsdale COLU 20 Mar; Saratoga L SARA 5 Apr; L George WARR 12 May.

Red-necked Grebe: 2 Alcove res ALBA 6 Apr; 2 New Baltimore GREE 28 Apr.
Great Cormorant: Catskill COLU 22 Mar.
Am. Bittern: arr BCM 16 Apr.
Least Bittern: arr BCM 3 May.
Great Egret: 2 VF 9 Apr; Wrights Loop SARA 12 Apr; BCM 25 May.
LITTLE BLUE HERON: Queensbury SARA 7-8 Apr (MB).
Green Heron: arr E Greenbush RENS 22 Apr.
Black-crowned Night-Heron: VF 19 Apr.
Black Vulture: Hudson COLU 3 Mar; 2 Palenville GREE 6 Mar; Waterford SARA 12 May; max 8 Crescent SARA 16 May.

HAWKS – ALCIDS

Osprey: arr Ramshorn-Livingston GREE 22 Apr.
SWALLOW-TAILED KITE: Greenville GREE 17 May.
Bald Eagle: max 5 Collins L SCHE 13 Mar.
N. Harrier: max 13 FtE 20 Mar.
N. Goshawk: New Scotland ALBA 14 Mar; PR 25 Apr.
Red-shouldered Hawk: Stanton Rd GREE 15 Mar; Saratoga L SARA 21 Mar; PR 26 Apr.
Broad-winged Hawk: arr Austerlitz COLU 14 Apr.
Rough-legged Hawk: max 15 Ft. Edward WASH 5 Mar.
Golden Eagle: Rensselaerville RENS 17 Mar (TW).
Merlin: Albany Rural Cemetery 7 Mar; Papscanee RENS 13 Mar; Lasher's Farm GREE 16 Mar; Coxsackie GREE 18 Apr.
Virginia Rail: arr BCM 27 Mar.
Sora: arr BCM 1 May.
Com. Moorhen: arr BCM 16 May.
Am. Coot: arr VF 29 Mar.
Semipalmented Plover: arr Cohoes ALBA 16 May
Killdeer: arr Livingston 5 Mar.
Spotted Sandpiper: arr Albany 25 Apr.
Solitary Sandpiper: arr Albany 25 Apr.
Greater Yellowlegs: arr Stanton Pd ALBA 6 Apr.
Lesser Yellowlegs: arr Niskayuna 19 Apr.
Semipalmented Sandpiper: arr Cohoes ALBA 16 May.
Least Sandpiper: arr Rensselaerville RENS 11 May.
Dunlin: Germantown COLU 21 May (MB).
Short-billed Dowitcher: arr Wrights Loop SARA 26 Apr.
Wilson's Snipe: arr 9 Kinderhook COLU 21 Mar; max 75 Wrights Loop SARA 13 Apr.
Am. Woodcock: arr Livingston COLU 6 Mar.
Bonaparte's Gull: arr VF 22 Apr.

Iceland Gull: max 3 Coxsackie Boat Launch GREE 1 Mar.
Com. Tern: arr L George WARR 20 May.
Black Tern: arr Round L SARA 15 May.

PIGEONS - WOODPECKERS

Black-billed Cuckoo: arr Five Rivers ALBA 9 May.
Yellow-billed Cuckoo: arr PR16 May.
Long-eared Owl: 2 Western ALBA 27 Mar; Five Rivers 3 Mar-1 Apr; 2 Rensselaerville RENS 25 Mar-thru, nesting.
Short-eared Owl: max 3 FtE 21 Mar.
Snowy Owl: FtE 1-20 Mar; Stone Arabia MONT 19 Apr.
N. Saw-whet Owl: PR 16 Mar; Rensselaerville RENS 26 Mar.
Com. Nighthawk: arr Hillsdale COLU 16 May.
Whip-poor-will: arr Hannacroix Preserve GREE 27 Apr.
Chimney Swift: arr Albany 1 May.
Ruby-throated Hummingbird: arr Austerlitz COLU 28 Apr.

FLYCATCHERS - WAXWINGS

Olive-sided Flycatcher: arr L George WARR 22 May.
E. Wood-Pewee: arr Hillsdale COLU 17 Apr.
Willow Flycatcher: Livingston COLU 16 May.
Least Flycatcher: arr Albany 25 Apr.
E. Phoebe: arr Livingston COLU 1 Mar.
Great Crested Flycatcher: arr Ballston L SARA 22 Apr.
E. Kingbird: arr Albany 1 May.
N. Shrike: last Slingerlands ALBA 8 Mar; Berne ALBA 22 Mar; Rensselaerville RENS 22 Mar.
Yellow-throated Vireo: arr Albany 1 May.
Blue-headed Vireo: arr PR 10 Apr.
Warbling Vireo: arr Livingston COLU 29 Apr.
Philadelphia Vireo: PR 12 May; Gallatin COLU 16 May.
Red-eyed Vireo: arr Austerlitz COLU 15 May.
Purple Martin: Saratoga L SARA 15 May.
N. Rough-winged Swallow: arr VF 6 Apr.
Bank Swallow: arr Huyck Preserve RENS 3 May.
Cliff Swallow: arr Rensselaerville RENS 2 May.
Barn Swallow: arr Tomhannock Res 6 Apr, early.
House Wren: arr Germantown COLU 20 Apr.
Marsh Wren: arr Albany 1 May.
Ruby-crowned Kinglet: arr Galway SARA 5 Apr.
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher: arr L Taghkanic COLU 26 Apr.

Veery: arr Chatham COLU 10 May.
Swainson's Thrush: arr Hyuck Preserve RENS 3 May.
Wood Thrush: arr Albany 25 Apr.
Gray Catbird: arr Taghkanic COLU 27 Apr.
Brown Thrasher: arr Livingston COLU 14 Mar.
BOHEMIAN WAXWING: 30 Northumberland SARA 12 Mar.

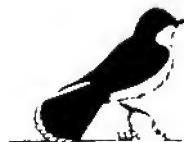
WARBLERS

Blue-winged Warbler: arr Albany 25 Apr.
"Brewster's Warbler": PR 16 May.
"Lawrence's Warbler": Knox ALBA 16 May.
Tennessee Warbler: PR 16 May.
Nashville Warbler: arr L Taghkanic COLU 25 Apr.
N. Parula: PR 9 May.
Yellow Warbler: arr L Taghkanic COLU 25 Apr.
Chestnut-sided Warbler: arr Livingston COLU 1 May.
Magnolia Warbler: arr Albany 1 May.
Cape May Warbler: Five Rivers ALBA 2 May.
Black-throated Blue Warbler: arr Albany 25 Apr.
Yellow-rumped Warbler: arr Livingston COLU 21 Mar.
Black-throated Green Warbler: arr L Taghkanic COLU 25 Apr.
Blackburnian Warbler: arr Copake COLU 30 Apr.
Pine Warbler: arr Five Rivers ALBA 18 Apr.
Prairie Warbler: arr Greenport COLU 26 Apr.
Palm Warbler: arr VF 9 Apr.
Bay-breasted Warbler: VF 10 May.
Blackpoll Warbler: arr VF 10 May
Cerulean Warbler: arr Schodack I COLU 12 May.
Black-and-white Warbler: arr Catskill GREE 22 Apr.
Am. Redstart: arr Albany 25 Apr.
Worm-eating Warbler: arr VF 30 Apr.

Ovenbird: arr Catskill GREE 22 Apr.
N. Waterthrush: arr Albany 25 Apr.
Louisiana Waterthrush: arr Slingerlands ALBA 14 Apr.
Mourning Warbler: VF 16 May.
Com. Yellowthroat: arr Albany 25 Apr.
Hooded Warbler: arr New Salem ALBA 9 May.
Wilson's Warbler: arr VF 12 May.
Canada Warbler: arr PR 9 May.

TANAGERS - WEAVERS

Scarlet Tanager: arr Albany 25 Apr.
E. Towhee: arr Five Rivers ALBA 6 Apr.
Chipping Sparrow: arr Averill Pk RENS 8 Apr.
Field Sparrow: arr Taghkanic COLU 2 Apr.
Vesper Sparrow: arr Harlemville COLU 7 Apr.
Savannah Sparrow: arr Saratoga Battlefield SARA 16 Apr.
Fox Sparrow: arr Claverack COLU 16 Mar.
Lincoln's Sparrow: arr E Greenbush RENS 5 May.
Snow Bunting: 6 FtE 1 Mar.
Rose-breasted Grosbeak: arr Palenville GREE 26 Apr.
Indigo Bunting: arr Claverack COLU 1 May.
Bobolink: arr Albany 25 Apr.
E. Meadowlark: arr Old Chatham COLU 29 Mar.
Rusty Blackbird: arr Albany 8 Mar; max 35 VF 28 Mar.
Orchard Oriole: arr Livingston COLU 30 Apr.
Baltimore Oriole: arr Taghkanic COLU 25 Apr.
White-winged Crossbill: max 30 Troy 8 Mar, numerous reports.
Com. Redpoll: max 60 Burnt Hills ALBA 17 Mar.
Pine Siskin: max 70 Albany 8 Mar, abundant and widespread.
Evening Grosbeak: Warrensburg WARR 22 Apr; 2 Providence SARA 30 Apr.



REGION 9—HUDSON - DELAWARE

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March started cold with Poughkeepsie dipping to 3° on the 4th, but then warmed up nicely into the sixties on the 7th and 8th. Overall temperatures were near normal. The ice cleared off the Ulster/Dutchess region of the Hudson River around mid March. The month was extremely dry. White Plains recorded only 0.49" of rain, more than 4" below normal. Poughkeepsie recorded 1.8". Dry conditions continued into April. Poughkeepsie recorded 1.9", half the normal amount. The month ended on a warm spell reaching 90° and 91° on 25, 26 and 28 April. May was wet but never very warm. Poughkeepsie recorded 6.3" of rain where the norm is 4.7". Temperatures never rose above 88° for the month and there were only four days that reached the 80s.

Mark DeDea found a Tufted Duck on the Hudson River at the Esopus Meadows Lighthouse Park in Ulster County on 22 March. The drake Tufted Duck was with a mixed flock of scaup, Ringed-necked Ducks, and Canvasbacks. The bird remained until the 25th. On the 26th, Chet Vincent found the Tufted Duck at Mills Mansion on the Dutchess side of the river; Chet watched it for over an hour for Dutchess County's first record. A scoter watch Saturday evening 9 May at Playland Park in Rye produced an immature male King Eider arriving with some White-winged Scoters and Surf Scoters. Although Cruickshank mentions it is casual on the Sound off Westchester in his *Birds Around New York City* (1942), this is only the third record for King Eider in Westchester and the first since 1995. All three records are from this area in Rye. Some scoters were found inland in April. Surf Scoters were found in Kiamesha Lake and White-winged Scoters in Neversink Reservoir and in Woodstock. A Red-necked Grebe was in Yankee Lake 22 April.

Great Cormorants are being found further up the Hudson River with sightings from Rhinecliff on 17 March and at Mills Mansion on 28 March. Great Cormorants were first reported away from LI Sound in 1987 and now commonly winter on the lower part of river. On 19 May Curt McDermott was leaving the Stewart Forest in Montgomery, Orange County, when he noticed an **Anhinga**, soaring toward him from the west. The bird came almost directly overhead and continued to soar in circles before flapping twice and heading north. It continued to soar northward until it was out of sight. Lance Verderame observed a flyover Glossy Ibis at Bashakill 18 April; it is only the fourth record for Sullivan County. The only Cattle Egret report was an odd one. Bill Robinson found it at the Pawling Middle School 22 April in the parking lot sitting on top of a car. Bald Eagles are now nesting as far south as Irvington in lower Westchester County. Tom Burke found a **Ruff** coming into full breeding plumage at Marshlands Conservancy on Saturday afternoon 25 April. The Ruff stayed on

the tidal flats of Milton Harbor through Tuesday afternoon. This is Westchester's second record, with the first also at Marshlands Conservancy, in July 1989.

Twenty-five Eastern Phoebes were found hunkered down in cold wind with occasional flurries at the Bashakill Marsh 8 April. A Sedge Wren was reported from Bashakill 2 May. A number of groups and individual birders reported a Cerulean Warbler singing a Hooded Warbler song near the reservoir on Doodletown Road in May (see *Notes and Observations*, this issue). A Prothonotary Warbler was found in Tibbetts Brook Park, Yonkers on 25 April. This is the third record for the City of Yonkers. The first was in 1895 by Eugene Bicknell and was the first state record outside Long Island at the time (*Auk* Vol. 12). Another Prothonotary Warbler was found at Bashakill 25 and 26 April, Sullivan County's fifth record. Kentucky Warblers were reported from Bashakill, Rye Nature Center and Doodletown Road, with the latter staying past May.

White-winged Crossbill reports continued through the period with most from Cooley Bog in Parksville. Three were reported there on the last day of May. Five Common Redpolls were in Stanfdville 2-3 March. Pine Siskins were common and widespread through April with a few hanging on into early May, and pairs at feeders until the end of May.

CONTRIBUTORS

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ABBREVIATIONS

CPP – Croton Point Park; DCMC – Dutchess County May Census 13 May;
EGR – Edith G. Read Wildlife Sanctuary; MC – Marshlands Conservancy; RNC – Rye Nature Center; RTWBC – Ralph T Waterman Bird Club; SGNWR – Shawangunk Grasslands National Wildlife Refuge.

WHISTLING-DUCKS - VULTURES

Snow Goose: 150 Neversink Res, flyovers 7 Mar; 181 Bashakill, flyover photo, incl 3 Blues 8 Mar.

Brant: 600 Mount Vernon 11 May; 530 overhead Westbrookville 12 May; 700 DCMC 13 May; 300 over Bashakill 23 May.

Wood Duck: 75 Bashakill 14 Mar.

American Wigeon: 40 Bashakill 14 Mar.

Blue-winged Teal: Bashakill 9 Apr.

Northern Pintail: 125 Bashakill 14 Mar.

Green-winged Teal: 75 Bashakill 14 Mar;

30 Pine Plains 10 Apr.

Ring-necked Duck: 97 Baird P 9 Mar; 432 Bashakill 12 Mar; 576 Yankee L 29 Mar.

Tufted Duck: Esopus Meadows Lighthouse Park 22-25 Mar (MDe, CM); Mills Mansion, 26 Dec (CV).

Greater Scaup: 3 Bashakill 15 Mar; 7,000-10,000 EGR 14-15 Mar; 200 EGR 5 Apr.

Lesser Scaup: 10 Bashakill 15 Mar; EGR 17 Apr.

King Eider: Playland Park 9 May (TB).

Surf Scoter: - 3 Kiamesha L 2 Apr; 1 Kiamesha L 3-18 Apr (JH, RD, SB); 16 EGR 17 Apr; 11 EGR 9 May.

White-winged Scoter: 32 Rye 15 Mar; 1 m Neversink Res 11 Apr (LV,JH,ABo); 22 EGR 17 Apr; Kenneth Wilson SP, Woodstock 28 Apr (PS); 28 EGR 9 May; 8 MC 25 May.

Long-tailed Duck: 310 EGR 5 Mar; CPP 8 Mar (CR); Neversink Res 9 Apr (JH,ABo); 3 Yankee L 11 Apr (JH); 120 EGR 17 Apr.

Bufflehead: 20 EGR 5 Apr.

Hooded Merganser: 60 Bashakill 1 Mar; 7 Cary Arboretum-IES 20 May.

Common Merganser: 8 DCMC 13 May.

Red-breasted Merganser: Norrie Point 10 Mar; 2 Cape Pond 19 Mar; 3 Kauneonga L 4 Apr; Kiamesha L 5 Apr; Wappinger 10 Apr; Neversink Res 11 Apr; Morningside 13 Apr; 12 EGR 17 Apr.

Ruddy Duck: 60 Larchmont Res 5 Apr.

Ring-necked Pheasant: MC 20,31 Mar, 25 Apr, 28 May; 14 Tamarack Lake 1 Apr; Hopelands Pk, Staatsburg 10 Apr; Cary Arboretum-IES 6, 16, 20, 29 May.

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Ruffed Grouse: Locust Grove 3 Apr; and a number of reports from SULL.

Red-throated Loon: EGR 5 Apr; 2 EGR 17 Apr.

Common Loon: 6 Kiamesha L 2 Apr; 2 EGR 17 Apr; EGR 11 May.

Pied-billed Grebe: Bashakill 14 Mar.

Horned Grebe: 30 EGR 14 Mar; Yankee L 19 Mar; 28 EGR 4 Apr; 2 Ashokan Res 9 May.

Red-necked Grebe: Yankee Lake 22 Apr (JH).

Northern Gannet: EGR 29 Mar; EGR 12 Apr; 2 EGR 17 Apr.

Great Cormorant: Rhinecliff 17 Mar (RJ); Mills Mansion 28 Mar (AJ); 3 EGR 11 Apr.

ANHINGA: Stewart Forest, Montgomery 19 May (CM).

American Bittern: Bashakill 15 Apr-1 May, 2 on 9 May; DeBruce Knickerbocker Rd 27 Apr, Neversink 28 Apr, Callicoon Center 29 Apr; 3 Bashakill 6 May.

Least Bittern: Bashakill 9 May.

Great Egret: arr EGR 5 Apr.

Snowy Egret: 2 EGE 11 Apr; 10 MC 25 Apr.

Cattle Egret: Pawling Middle School 22 Apr (in parking lot sitting on top of a car) (BR).

Green Heron: arr Bashakill 26 Apr.

Glossy Ibis: Bashakill 18 Apr (LV, JH, ABo); 40 MC 26 Apr.

Black Vulture: reports from each county.

HAWKS - ALCIDS

Osprey: arr MC 15 Mar.

Bald Eagle: 6 DCMC 13 May.

Northern Goshawk: Westbrookville 25 Mar; Yankee L 24 Apr (JH).

Red-shouldered Hawk: 7 Hook Mt 8 Mar.

Broad-winged Hawk: first Napanoch Dean Rd 5 Apr.

Rough-legged Hawk: Parksville 8 Mar (JH).

Golden Eagle: Wappinger L 19 Apr (KH).

American Kestrel: arr 10 Mar Sull.

Merlin: Route 17, exit 112 25 Apr; Neversink Res 8 May.

Peregrine Falcon: Bashakill 24 Mar.
Clapper Rail: 4 MC 26 Apr.
Virginia Rail: 4 Bashakill 9 Apr; 4 Thompson Pd 23 Apr.
Sora: Bashakill 19 Apr; 2 May.
Common Moorhen: arr Bashakill 26 Apr.
American Coot: Bashakill 8 May.
Black-bellied Plover: arr MC 11 May; 4 MC 11 May.
Semipalnated Plover: 3 Woodbourne 30 May, 2 Monticello 30 May, Morningside 31 May.
American Oystercatcher: 2 EGR 15 Mar; 7 EGR 17 Apr; 3 MC 27 Apr; 2 MC 1,15 May; 5 EGR 9 May.
Greater Yellowlegs: arr EGR 12 Apr; Pine Plains 18 Apr; Bashakill 19, 24 Apr; 14 MC 28 Apr.
Lesser Yellowlegs: Red Wing Park, East Fishkill 7 Mar (CV) early; Bashakill 22 Apr; 4 Woodbourne 8 May.
Solitary Sandpiper: arr Doodletown 25 Apr.
Spotted Sandpiper: arr Yonkers 25 Apr; Bashakill 25 Apr; 5 Bashakill 2 May.
Upland Sandpiper: 2 Blue Chip Farms 25 May; 5 Blue Chip Farms 25 May.
Ruddy Turnstone: 2 EGR 15 Mar; 16 EGR 5 Apr; MC 15 May.
Semipalnated Sandpiper: 8 Rhinebeck 23 May.
Least Sandpiper: arr MC 30 Apr; 14 Woodbourne 10 May.
Purple Sandpiper: 5 EGR 15 Mar; 12 EGR 5 Apr; 2 EGR 20 Apr; 5 EGR 25 May.
RUFF: MC 25-28 Apr (TB), see intro.
Wilson's Snipe: 2 Bashakill 21 Mar.
American Woodcock: arr MC 1 Mar.
Laughing Gull: 2 MC 30 Apr; 6 EGR 24 May.
Bonaparte's Gull: Yankee Lake 27 Mar; Swan Lake 2 Apr; 11 EGR 12 Apr; Neversink Res; 19, 25 Apr; 3 Wappinger 4 May; 19 EGR 9 May; Morningside 31 May.
Iceland Gull: EGR 12-16 Apr; 2 EGR 17 Apr.
Lesser Black-backed Gull: Monticello 11 Mar (JH, ABo); 2 ad EGR 15 Mar (TB).
Common Tern: arr MC 8 May; 300 MC 21 May.
Forster's Tern: 2 MC 25 Apr; 5 MC 25 Apr; 4 MC 1, 12 May.
Least Tern: 2 MC 27 Apr, 12,15 May.

PIGEONS - WOODPECKERS

Black-billed Cuckoo: arr MC 7 May.
Yellow-billed Cuckoo: arr 6 May; Doodletown 22 May.

Northern Saw-whet Owl: hooting Ludlow Woods 26 Apr (DKr).
Common Nighthawk: arr 3 Bashakill 9 May.
Whip-poor-will: arr Bashakill area 26 Apr; 2 Bashakill 2,9 May.
Chimney Swift: 30 Rhinebeck 17 Apr.
Ruby-throated Hummingbird: arr 26 Apr.
Red-headed Woodpecker: Stony Kill EEC 19-24 Mar; Greenfield Park 5 Apr; Liberty Golden Park 8 May; Bashakill 9 May; Blue Chip Farm 31 May.

FLYCATCHERS - WAXWINGS

Olive-sided Flycatcher: 3 Doodletown 16-18 May; Bashakill 17,18 May; Wappingers 22 May.
Eastern Wood-Pewee: arr RNC 7 May.
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: Bashakill 17 May; Linear Park 25 May.
Acadian Flycatcher: RNC 7 May; 3 DCMC 13 May; Mine Road 31 May; Nuclear Lake 20 May; 2 Bashakill 24-31 May; 2 Pawling Nature Reserve 25 May K&CF; 2 Deep Hollow 30 May.
Willow Flycatcher: arr MC 21 Apr.
Least Flycatcher: arr Bashakill 25 Apr.
Eastern Phoebe: arr MC 15 Mar; 25 Bashakill 8 Apr hunkered down in cold wind with occasional flurries (RD MG VF).
Great Crested Flycatcher: arr Bashakill 26 Apr; 149 DCMC 13 May.
Eastern Kingbird: arr 25 Apr.
White-eyed Vireo: arr MC 26 Apr.
Blue-headed Vireo: arr MC 1 Apr;
Yellow-throated Vireo: arr Doodletown 25 Apr; 9 Doddletown 16 May.
Warbling Vireo: arr Yonkers 25 Apr; 173 DCMC 13 May.
Philadelphia Vireo: 1 Dennings Pt 27 May (RTWBC).
Red-eyed Vireo: arr Bashakill 1 May.
Purple Martin: arr Bashakill 6 Apr.
Tree Swallow: Bashakill 1 Mar.
Northern Rough-winged Swallow: arr EGR 5 Apr.
Bank Swallow: arr 9 May.
Barn Swallow: Bashakill 9 Apr.
Cliff Swallow: arr 7 May.
House Wren: arr MC 23 Apr.
Sedge Wren: Bashakill 2 May (JCI).
Marsh Wren: arr MC 8 May; 4 MC 8 May.
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher: Bashakill 18 Apr.
Veery: arr Pawling Nature Reserve 28 Apr; 24 Pawling Nature Reserve 25 May.
Gray-cheeked Thrush: Bashakill 13 May; Linear Park 13 May; 2 Bashakill 18 May.
Bicknell's Thrush: 4 Slide Mt 23 May.

Swainson's Thrush: arr RNC 2 May.
Wood Thrush: arr RNC 28 Apr.
Gray Catbird: arr Bashakill 26 Apr.
Brown Thrasher: arr 19 Mar.
American Pipit: 30 Hunter Rd, SULL 2 May.

WARBLERS

Blue-winged Warbler: arr Doodletown 25 Apr.
Golden-winged Warbler: Bashakill 6 May; Linear Park trail 15 May; 1-2 Mine Road 18,20, 31 May.
Brewster's Warbler: Mine Road 18,20 May; Doodletown 22 May (VP).
Lawrence's Warbler: Cary Arboretum-IES 29,30 Apr, 1-2 May (W&LS,GL); Tivoli Bays 11 May (RMa); Millbrook School 13 May (RTWBC).
Tennessee Warbler: arr Reese Park 10 May.
Nashville Warbler: arr Doodletown 25 Apr.
Northern Parula: arr 27 Apr.
Yellow Warbler: arr Thompson Pd 22 Apr.
Chestnut-sided Warbler: arr Peach Hill 28 Apr.
Magnolia Warbler: arr 27 Apr.
Cape May Warbler: Ashokan Reservoir 9 May; Linear Park Trail 9 May; Doodletown 15 May; Mt. Taurus May 15; Doodletown 17 May.
Black-throated Blue Warbler: 3 arr Pawling Nature Reserve 28 Apr.
Black-throated Green Warbler: arr 26 Apr; 20 Pawling Nature Reserve 28 Apr.
Blackburnian Warbler: arr Bashakill 25 Apr.
Pine Warbler: arr Rye 6 Apr.
Prairie Warbler: arr Bashakill 4 Apr.
Palm Warbler: 10 Bashakill 12 Apr.
Bay-breasted Warbler: 2 Ferncliff Forest, Rhinebeck 10 May; Poughkeepsie 11 May K&CF; RNC 13,19,24 May; Mt Taurus May 15; 3 Bashakill 15-16 May; Doodletown 20 May; 2 Nuclear L 19 May.
Blackpoll Warbler: arr Nyack Memorial P 27 Apr.
Cerulean Warbler: arr Doodletown 25 Apr; Bashakill 28 Apr; RNC 6 May; Bashakill 13 May; Mt. Taurus May 15; 13 Doodletown 16 May; Nuclear L 20 May; one singing a Hooded Warbler song Doodletown 23, 30,31 May (mob).
Black-and-white Warbler: arr 21 Apr.
American Redstart: arr Doodletown 25 Apr.

Prothonotary Warbler: Tibbits Brook Park, Yonkers 25 Apr (K&MB); Bashakill 25-26 Apr (SD, SB), 5th Sullivan Co record.
Worm-eating Warbler: arr Pawling Nature Reserve 28 Apr.

Ovenbird: arr Poughquag 26 Apr.
Northern Waterthrush: arr RNC 28 Apr.

Louisiana Waterthrush: 2 Saugerties 11 Apr; 5 Pond Gut 18 Apr.

Kentucky Warbler: Bashakill 9 May (GP,CW); Doodletown 13-31 May (BL); Rye Nature Center 12, 24 May (TB).

Mourning Warbler: Ferncliff Forest, Rhinebeck 11 May; Doodletown 15 May; RNC 19, 21 May; MC 31 May; Mine Road 31 May.

Common Yellowthroat: arr 25 Apr.

Hooded Warbler: arr Doodletown 25 Apr; 8 Pawling Nature Reserve 28 Apr; Neversink Gorge 2 May (JH); 16 Doodletown 16 May.

Wilson's Warbler: arr Bashakill 2 May.

Canada Warbler: arr Doodletown 2 May.
Yellow-breasted Chat: Mine Road 16-31 May.

TANAGERS - WEAVERS

Scarlet Tanager: arr Pond Gut 27 Apr.

Chipping Sparrow: arr Rye 11 Apr.

Field Sparrow: arr Westbrookville 22 Mar.

Vesper Sparrow: Westbrookville 9 Apr; Bashakill Nature 17 Apr; Hunter Rd 20 Apr; 4 Hunter Rd 22 Apr; McDonald Rd 1 May; 2 DCMC 13 May.

Savannah Sparrow: arr 3 Mar.

Saltmarsh Sharp-tailed Sparrow: MC 11,25 May.

Seaside Sparrow: MC 26, 30 Apr, 1 May (TB).

Lincoln's Sparrow: Bashakill 2 May.

White-throated Sparrow: 2 RNC 30 May.

White-crowned Sparrow: 3 Amenia 7 Apr; 2 Amenia 20 Apr; Bashakill 27 Apr; Lagrange 1 May DG; 4 McDonald Rd 2 May; Verbank 8-12 May; 4 Bashakill 9 May; Bashakill 13 May; 3 DCMC 13 May; Millbrook School 13 May.

Rose-breasted Grosbeak: arr Claryville 27 Apr.

Indigo Bunting: arr 4 May.

Bobolink: arr 4 May.

Eastern Meadowlark: EGR 14 Mar; 5 Monticello 24 Mar.

Rusty Blackbird: 15 Bashakill 28 Mar; 4 Kauneonga L 5 Apr; 3 Bashakill 8, 18 Apr & 3; 6 Monticello landfill 9 Apr; 2 Swan L; 1 Westbrookville deli fields; 20 Bashakill Rt 209 Boat Launch.

Orchard Oriole: arr 3 Yonkers 25 Apr.
Baltimore Oriole: arr Yonkers 25 Apr.
White-winged Crossbill: 6 Thompson Pd area 4 Mar; 20 Vanderbilt 7 Mar; 30 Bard College 9 Mar; 60 Cooley Bog, Parksville 22 Mar; 27 Cooley Bog 11 Apr; 5 Cooley Bog 18 Apr; 18 Cooley Bog 26 Apr; 3 Cooley Bog 31 May.

Common Redpoll: 5 Stanfdville 2.3 Mar (DK).
Pine Siskin: common and widespread thru April with a few hanging on into early May with pairs at feeder till the end of May; 21 DCMC 13 May; 2 RNC 19 May; Cooley Rd Bog 30 May.

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REGION 10—MARINE

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After a virtually snowless winter here in Region 10, March came in like a lion, dumping 11" of snow at Islip on the 3rd and a few inches more in some localities. Still, the month's precipitation total came in at only 2.43", -2.33" compared to normal. The mean temperature for March was 38.3° F, 1.0° below normal. April featured many days with significant wind. A warm spell began on the 23rd and reached 90° + on the 27th, causing accelerated leaf-out of trees, much like last year. April's mean temperature was 1.6° above normal, at 50.7°, and precipitation was near normal at 4.86". It rained for eight of the first ten days of May and sporadically thereafter, and the precipitation total for the month was 5.88", 1.98" above average. Only a few days were really warm, but the mean temperature was just 0.2° cooler than average, at 59°.

As usual, quite a few winter rarities lingered into spring, including Ross's Geese, two "Black" Brant, "Richardson's" Cackling Geese, most of the scarce but regular ducks, and the continuing Western Grebe at Staten Island. Doug Kurz's Varied Thrush remained at Sands Pt., in northern Nassau County, through 24 March.

May's cool, wet weather didn't discourage the late spring seabird flight, which featured a strong showing by Sooty Shearwaters mid-month, the usual scattering of small numbers of Manx Shearwaters, good numbers of Wilson's

Storm-Petrels by month's end, several flocks of near-shore Red-necked Phalaropes, several Parasitic Jaegers, and about a dozen Black Terns. On 17 May, Sooty Shearwaters were observed over both Shinnecock and Moriches Bays, a very unusual context in our Region; several birds were seen settling on the latter bay at dusk. Exceptional numbers of Gull-billed Terns were observed at Jones Inlet, peaking at 15 on 15 May. The trend toward earlier arrival of Royal Tern continued this year with a breeding-plumaged bird at Pike's Beach on 30 May. A female Roseate Tern was photographed copulating repeatedly with a male Common Tern at Democrat Pt. on 29 May (see *Notes and Observations*, this issue).

Mary Normandia counted 100 Pine Warblers at Shu Swamp, in northern Nassau County, on 8 April—an astonishing total by historical norms. It is worth noting that this species has increased markedly as a spring migrant in recent years, and that double-digit counts have become the norm at favorable sites during mid April (e.g., 25 at Hempstead Lake SP on 10 April 2006, KB 56: 296).

The first big wave of Neotropical migrant landbirds arrived early, on 25 April, overlapping to a greater than usual degree with the main passage of medium-distance migrants. Prior to this date, several trans-Gulf "slingshot" events brought early examples of characteristic Neotropical species, such as Indigo Bunting, Blue and Rose-breasted Grosbeaks, Summer and Scarlet Tanagers, and several wood-warblers (see KB 55, No. 3). Clusters of these birds appeared on 4-5 April and 8-10 April at outer coastal sites, usually unaccompanied by waves of more seasonal migrants, suggesting long-distance displacement. Although 22 April was a big day for medium-distance migrants in the southwestern part of the Region, the few migrants recorded further east that day evinced a decided slingshot flavor. Quite unexpected among the earliest pulse was a Yellow-throated Vireo, a species seldom involved in (or perhaps seldom surviving) these events, photographed at Baiting Hollow on 5 April by Linda Sullivan.

The big push of Neotropicals 25-26 April included many species for which such a date would have seemed preposterous just a few years ago, for instance, Swainson's Thrush and Blackpoll, Bay-breasted, and Canada Warblers. One of the rarest birds of the season, a **Townsend's Warbler** at Prospect Park, occurred in this context but was seen by few apart from its finders. A more obliging Yellow-throated Warbler was also present there on 25 April, where it was regarded as a barely adequate consolation prize by some of the jaded twitchers who missed the Townsend's! The spectacular breeding-plumaged **Ruff** found by Tom Burke in Rye (in Reg. 9) that evening should have perked up even the most blasé New York area listers, provided they didn't mind squandering lots of gasoline. Unfortunately, May did not live up to expectations raised by this early start to the Neotropical migration season. Many observers failed to connect with a single stellar morning this spring, a plaint that has become alarmingly routine in recent years.

Both vultures continued to increase in frequency in New York City and on Long Island, to the extent that enumerating all records has become impossible—

even for Black Vulture. Turkey Vulture has catapulted from year-round scarcity on Long Island to ubiquity (e.g., Salzman 2007, KB 57: 301), winter roosts (Gillen 2009, KB 59: 123), and even breeding (KB 58:400) over the course of less than a decade. During the same interval, Black Vulture has moved from real rarity to regular occurrence in Region 10, and breeding here now seems almost inevitable. Why these species are finally now invading the coastal zone, decades after their respective colonizations of mainland New York, deserves attention.

Seemingly following the examples of the vultures is another large, black, carrion-feeding denizen of the inland ridges—**Common Raven**. Rare even in the Adirondacks during the early 20th Century and almost unknown in Region 10 throughout historical times, this species has been increasing steadily now for several decades (*The Second Atlas of Breeding Birds in New York State*, McGowan and Corwin, eds.). If Long Island's heavily urbanized, low-relief landscape can be regarded as the Raven's last frontier in New York State, then the species seems poised for ubiquity at last! This spring's records from around the Queens–Nassau County line follow a couple of pioneering visits near there in 2006, documented by Peter Martin (KB 57: 15-16), as well as a spate of reports from Staten Island last winter (KB 59: 100-106).

Other rarities, not mentioned above, include a **Sandhill Crane** found by Claire Borrelli and Amy Simmons at Gabreski Airport on 17 May and seen by many others through the next day; and a **Black-necked Stilt** found by Pat Egen and Rich Carlan at Oceanside Marine Nature Study Area on 8 May and present for more than a week thereafter. The crane remains genuinely rare in Region 10, despite its recent increases upstate. Sam Jannazzo's **Lark Sparrow** at Jones Beach on 24 April is one of very few ever seen in Region 10 during spring.

CONTRIBUTORS

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ABBREVIATIONS

1S, 2S—first, second summer plumage; APP—Alley Pond P, QUEE; BBG—Brooklyn Botanical Gardens, KING; CCP—Cupsogue CP, SUFF; CHP—Conference House P, RICH; CLP—Clove Lake P, RICH; CP—Central Park, NEWY; DOP—Drier-Offerman P, KING; DP—Democrat Pt, SUFF; EH—East Hampton, SUFF; FBF—Floyd Bennett Field, KING; FP—Forest P, QUEE; GCP—Gardiner CP, Bay Shore, SUFF; GKP—Great Kills P, RICH; Grumman—former Grumman property, Calverton, SUFF; GW Cem—Greenwood Cemetery, KING; HLSP—Hempstead L SP, NASS; Jam Bay—Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge, KING & QUEE; JBSP—Jones Beach SP, NASS; JBWE—Jones Beach SP West End, NASS; MB—Mecox Bay, SUFF; MI—Moriches In, SUFF; MLUA—Mount Loretto Unique Area, RICH; MP—Montauk Pt, SUFF; moot—status ambiguous, winter resident vs. spring migrant; OMNSA—Oceanside Marine Nature Study Area, NASS; OP—Orient Pt, SUFF; PiB—Pike's Beach, Westhampton Dunes, SUFF; PL—Point Lookout, NASS; PP—Prospect P, KING; RMSP—Robert Moses SP, SUFF; Sagg—Sagaponack Pd & vic., SUFF; Shinn—Shinnecock In and vic.; SI—Staten Island, RICH; SMSP—Sunken Meadow SP, SPCP—Smith's Pt CP, SUFF; SY—second year plumage; VSSP—Valley Stream SP, NASS; WPP—Wolfe's Pd P, RICH.

WHISTLING-DUCKS - VULTURES

Snow Goose: 1,500 Jam Bay 4 Mar; departed e LI 25 Mar & w LI 22 Apr; GW Cem 10 May, injured.

Ross's Goose: SY Camman's Pd, NASS thru 10 Apr, from winter; SY Big Egg Marsh, QUEE thru 28 Mar, from winter.

"BLACK" BRANT: Corona P, QUEE 20 Mar (KM, SA); WPP 25 Mar (AnW)-22 Apr (SSM ph).

"Richardson's" Cackling Goose: Hook Pd, EH 1 Mar; Further Lane, EH 15 Mar.

Mute Swan: 242 MB 26 Apr.

Tundra Swan: 7 Georgica Pd, EH 1 Mar, from winter; Water Mill, SUFF 21 Mar (MMCB).

Eurasian Wigeon: m Mattituck, SUFF 8-15 Mar (PG); m hybrid x Am. Wigeon also present.

Blue-winged Teal: arr WPP & FBF 27 Mar; SI & Jam Bay thru 9 May at least.

N. Shoveler: pr Montauk 12 Apr, where rare; Jam Bay thru 9 May at least.

Green-winged Teal: max 130 Terrell Ri P, SUFF 13 Mar; last Jam Bay & Sagg 26 Apr.

Canvasback: 35 Water Mill 31 Mar.

Redhead: last Capri Pd, W Islip, SUFF 5 Apr.
Ring-necked Duck: m PP thru; otherwise last SMSP 26 Apr.

Greater Scaup: 12,000 GKP 4 Mar (SBI).

Lesser Scaup: last Jam Bay 9 May.

King Eider: 5 Montauk thru 21 Mar, from winter; 3 Plumb Beach, KING 8 May.

Com. Eider: no large numbers reported; lingering 14 OP 24 May & 2 MP 30 May.

Harlequin Duck: f GKP 3-25 Apr (J Gavrity, et al.), where v rare; cont from winter at trad sites; last OP 26 May.

Surf Scoter: Riis P, QUEE 28 May.

White-winged Scoter: MP and off Oyster Pd, Montauk 30 May.

Black Scoter: SPCP 31 May.

Long-tailed Duck: SI 24 May.

Bufflehead: DOP 10 May.

Barrow's Goldeneye: m Orient Harbor, SUFF thru 14 Mar.

Hooded Merganser: CP 18 May.

Com. Merganser: HLSP 26 Apr.

Ruddy Duck: 1000 Water Mill 31 Mar.; CP 8 May.

Ring-necked Pheasant: inds Jam Bay, JBSP, & RMSP locally unus; max 15 Peconic, SUFF 26 Mar.

RUFFED GROUSE (R10): reported Calverton, SUFF 5 May (BA); photos or full details of any record would be greatly appreciated.

Wild Turkey: WPP 5 Apr, unus on SI.

N. Bobwhite: reported from four areas in SUFF.

Red-throated Loon: CP Res 4 Mar, unus loc; 14 SPCP 31 May, late for so many.

Com. Loon: 553 Montauk 7 Mar; 22 migr DP 30 May.

Pied-billed Grebe: CP Res 14 May-13 Apr, unus loc; Babylon, SUFF 8 May, late.

Red-necked Grebe: 4 Gravesend Bay, KING 18 Mar; alt Gravesend Bay 8 May; SI 9 May, late.

Eared Grebe: Lemon Cr Pier, RICH 1-31 Mar (SWo, mob).

WESTERN GREBE: Lemon Cr Pier-WPP 13-31 Mar, presumably same ind from winter.

Sooty Shearwater: arr 3 DP 16 May; 6

Moriches Bay, ea. Pikes's Beach, SUFF 17 May, v unus context; max 20 MP 22 May; 2 Fort Tilden, QUEE 26 May, westernmost.

Manx Shearwater: arr MP 22 May.

Wilson's Storm-Petrel: arr 44 DP 29 May.

N. Gannet: many reports 4 Apr of birds exploring Raritan Bay, south shore inlets, & e LI Sound; 750+ Plumb Beach, RICH 16 Apr; 280 Amagansett 21 May; 150 DP 29 May, late for so many.

Brown Pelican: L Montauk, SUFF 5 Apr (JP).

Am. Bittern: migrants perched 60-100' in trees mid Apr & early Mar attracted attention PP and FP.

Least Bittern: Plumb Beach 9 May; SI 9 May; Northville 12 May.

Great Egret: widespread arr 21 Mar.

Snowy Egret: arr e LI Mecox 31 Mar.

Little Blue Heron: Springs, EH 29 Mar & 9 Apr (AnW).

Tricolored Heron: Springs, EH 9 Apr (AnW), unus loc; very few reports away from Jam Bay.

Cattle Egret: 5 widely scattered reports 30 Apr-18 May.

Green Heron: HLSP 12 Apr; widespread arr 25 Apr.

Yellow-crowned Night-Heron: Camman's Pond 22 Mar, early.

Glossy Ibis: arr 2 Bellport Bay Marina 14 Mar, early.

Black Vulture: more than a dozen widely scattered reports 15 Mar-24 May, continues to increase.

Turkey Vulture: at least 46 reports from throughout Region.

HAWKS - ALCIDS

Osprey: widespread arrival around 10 Mar.

Bald Eagle: 12 widely scattered reports.

N. Harrier: potential breeders include pr Cedar Beach, T Babylon, SUFF 16 May, displaying; pr Grumman thru; Shinn 17 May.

Cooper's Hawk: many reports, inc nest E. Islip.

N. Goshawk: imm Napeague 4 Apr.

Red-shouldered Hawk: 4 reports North Fork 26 Mar-26 Apr; ad Water Mill 19 Apr; PP 9 May.

Broad-winged Hawk: arr BBG 3 Apr (DG), early; a few scattered reports late Apr; Jam Bay 10 May.

Rough-legged Hawk: dark morph Grumman thru 21 Mar; last Fresh Kills, RICH 22 Mar.

Am. Kestrel: max 10+ Grumman 5 Apr; 8 Grumman 23 Apr.

Merlin: last MP 30 May.

Virginia Rail: arr Little Reed Pd, Montauk 18 Apr.

Sora: SI big day 9 May, only report.

Com. Moorhen: SI big day 9 May, only report.

Am. Coot: lingered into May Jam Bay; present Aquebogue thru, only regional nesting site.

SANDHILL CRANE (R10): Gabreski Airport 17-18 May (C Borrelli, AS, mob ph).

Black-bellied Plover: max 500 Jam Bay 26 May.

Semipalmated Plover: arr MB 25 Apr, max 55 Sagg 16 May.

Piping Plover: 13 JBWE 22 Mar; 14 prs at Westhampton Dunes by mid Apr (fide RJK).

Am. Oystercatcher: arr GKP 5 Mar; also PL, Captree SP, SUFF, & Shinn 8 Mar.

BLACK-NECKED STILT: OMNSA 8 May (PE, RC) thru 15 May; also Cow Meadow P., NASS 12-17 May, prob same ind.

Greater Yellowlegs: arr Forge R 14 Mar, early for genuine migr, but possibly wintered.

Lesser Yellowlegs: arr 2 Montauk 12 Apr; max 25 Goethals Bridge Pd, RICH 8 May.

Solitary Sandpiper: widespread arr 22-24 Apr.

Willet: arr Jam Bay 17 Apr; arr e LI Sagg 25 Apr.

Willet (*inornatus*): 1S MB 26 Apr (AnW); 1S Shinn 24 May (PJL, SSM); 2 1S CCP 25 May (PJL, SSM), rare in spring.

Spotted Sandpiper: arr 2 Marine P, KING 22 Apr; arr e LI Northville 29 Apr.

Upland Sandpiper: Grumman 16 Apr (PS ph); Orient 15 May (R&N Willot).

- Whimbrel:** MB 26 Apr; Dune Rd, SUFF 3 May; 2 RMSP 17 May; only reports.
- Ruddy Turnstone:** max 507 PiB 24 May.
- Red Knot:** largest counts 50 JBWE 1 May; 73 PiB 24 May; 235 Big Egg Marsh, Jam Bay 26 May.
- Sanderling:** 2300 Plumb Beach 28 May, high count; max 2700 PiB 28 May.
- Semipalinated Sandpiper:** arr Sagg 25 Apr; 1400 Jam Bay 26 May, high count; max 2800 MI 24 May.
- Least Sandpiper:** arr Jam Bay 18 May; max 208 Sagg 16 May.
- White-rumped Sandpiper:** arr 2 Sagg 16 May; 8 MI 30 May; max 11+ Plumb Beach 31 May.
- Pectoral Sandpiper:** arr 2 Rita's Horse Farm, Montauk 5 Apr; Sammy's Beach, EH 26 Apr; only reports.
- Purple Sandpiper:** last Tiana Beach, SUFF bay shore 30 May.
- Dunlin:** max 350 Jam Bay 26 May.
- Stilt Sandpiper:** alt Sagg 17 May, only report.
- Short-billed Dowitcher:** arr Sagg 25 Apr; no large counts reported, e.g., 20 Triton Lane near Shinn 17 May.
- Wilson's Snipe:** arr Georgica Pd 14 Mar; max 7 MLUA 21 Mar.
- Red-necked Phalarope:** 3 CCP 25 May; 4 RMSP 27 May; 27 DP 29 May; all on ocean, only reports.
- Black-legged Kittiwake:** MP 1 Mar, only report.
- Bonaparte's Gull:** zero PL 15 Mar, formerly the time and place for thousands; max 100 WPP mid Mar.
- Black-headed Gull:** imm Accabonac, SUFF 12 Apr; imm Paerdegat Basin, KING 6 May.
- Little Gull:** ad MP 30 May (AnW), only report.
- Laughing Gull:** arr Rockaway Beach 19 Mar, widespread arr 4 Apr.
- Iceland Gull:** at least a dozen reports; last RMSP 7 May, JBSP 9 May, and Northville thru 27 May (AB).
- Lesser Black-backed Gull:** at least 23 reports; max 3 Heckscher SP, SUFF 7 May.
- Glaucous Gull:** Jones Inlet 7-17 Mar, 17 Apr; SI Raritan Bay shore 13 Mar, 5 Apr; HLSP 12 Apr.
- Least Tern:** arr MB 25 Apr.
- Gull-billed Tern:** arr 2 JBWE 2 May; **10** JBWE 13 May (S Brody); **15** JBWE 15 May (JGI); **12** JBWE 16 May (mob ph), all without precedent in spring.
- Caspian Tern:** arr 7 Georgica Pd 23 Apr; four other widely scattered reports thru 17 May.
- Black Tern:** arr Shinn 10 May & Jam Bay 15 May; max 3 RMSP 24 May; about six more reports from outer shore thru 30 May.
- Roseate Tern:** arr Northville 3 May; 21 DP 16 May, many for site; small numbers MI & Shinn, inc 1-2 pairs marsh island colony near Triton Lane; 100+ MP 17 May; female copulating with Common Tern DP 29 May, see pp. 236-237.
- Com. Tern:** widespread arr 2 May; 550 DP 16 May, high count; max 1500 MP 17 May; 1S arr JBWE 16 May, early; 1S & 2 S CCP 25 May.
- Forster's Tern:** arr 4 JBSP 10 Apr; 5 (1S, 3 2S, ad) CCP 31 May, east of regular breeding areas.
- Royal Tern:** alt PiB 30 May (K&SF, mob).
- Black Skimmer:** arr 66 Plumb Beach 29 Apr.; 310 Plumb Beach 14 May.
- Parasitic Jaeger:** CCP 23 May; 2 RMSP 26 May.
- Dovekie:** Lemon Creek P, RICH 9 Mar (S Saphir, L. Swenson).
- THICK-BILLED MURRE:** Ditch Plains, SUFF 1 Mar, from winter.
- Razorbill:** last Amagansett 4 Apr.
- PIGEONS - WOODPECKERS**
- Monk Parakeet:** 30 Pelham Bay P, BRON 5 Apr; Amityville, SUFF 13 Apr.
- Black-billed Cuckoo:** arr PP 29 Apr; HLSP 2 May, both early.
- Yellow-billed Cuckoo:** arr 26 Apr Jam Bay & Inwood Hill P, NEWY, early.
- Barn Owl:** pr nesting again 30 Mar in box visible at Jam Bay.
- Snowy Owl:** 3 JBWE thru 14 Mar, from winter; Napeague thru 8 Mar, from winter.
- Short-eared Owl:** 2 Grumman 6 Mar; Westhampton 9 Mar.
- Com. Nighthawk:** widespread arr 8-10 May.
- Chuck-will's-widow:** Westhampton & Quogue week of 26 Apr.
- Whip-poor-will:** arr 25 Apr GKP and Westhampton & Quogue week of 26 Apr; migr Jam Bay 27 Apr; CP 24 May.
- Chimney Swift:** 2 PP 22 Apr; widespread arr 24-25 Apr.
- Ruby-throated Hummingbird:** widespread arr 26 Apr; late migr CCP 30 May & CP 31 May.
- Belted Kingfisher:** arr 8 Mar GCP, SUFF & Fort Pond, Montauk.
- Red-headed Woodpecker:** Shinn 26 Apr; HLSP 28 Apr; EH 29 Apr; PP 30 Apr-10 May; VSSP 2-9 May; CHP 9 May; FBF 9 May; MLUA 18 May; breeders present again Calverton 7 May.
- Yellow-bellied Sapsucker:** widespread arr 14-15 Mar.
- N. Flicker:** conspicuous migr 1 Apr.

FLYCATCHERS - WAXWINGS

Olive-sided Flycatcher: PP 12, 25 May; CLP 19 May; CP 20, 31 May.

E. Wood-Pewee: arr FP 28 Apr, early; widespread arr 7 May.

Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: CP 7, 15, 30, 31 May; SI 8, 30 May; Rocky Pt DEC, SUFF 24 May.

Acadian Flycatcher: PP 11, 23, 31 May; CP 16, 23 May; nest VSSP 23 May-19 Jun (BBe, MB).

Alder Flycatcher: CP 31 May (TF), only report.

Willow Flycatcher: widespread arr 9 May.

Least Flycatcher: arr CP 25 Apr; arr e LI Greenport 2 May.

E. Phoebe: widespread arr 14-15 Mar.

Great Crested Flycatcher: widespread arr 25-26 Apr.

E. Kingbird: widespread arr 25-26 Apr; max 20 Shelter I 9 May, in dense fog.

White-eyed Vireo: arr HLSP 8 Apr, early.

Yellow-throated Vireo: arr Baiting Hollow 5 Apr, exceptionally early (L Sullivan ph); Mt Sinai 23 Apr; widespread arr 25 Apr.

Blue-headed Vireo: arr CP 12 Mar; max 7 JBSP 19 Apr.

Warbling Vireo: arr HLSP 8 Apr, exceptionally early; widespread arr 25 Apr.

Philadelphia Vireo: PP 11 & 19 May; CP 12 May (C Bloch); FP 24 May.

Red-eyed Vireo: arr CP 25 Apr; widespread arr 8 May.

Blue Jay: JBSP 25 Apr, barrier beach migr.

COMMON RAVEN (R10): Frick Estate, Roslyn 25 Mar, 12 Apr (PM); 2 Riverdale 26 Mar (JD); SI 15 Apr (SWo), 18 Apr (RRV), & 23 Apr (2, HF); FP 12 May (EM et al.) & 21 May (SP); Bethpage SP 17 Apr (WB); Pelham Bay P 18 Apr (RJ); unprecedented series of reports.

Horned Lark: max 200 Bridgehampton 1 Mar.

Purple Martin: arr Hither Hills SP, SUFF 12 Apr.

Tree Swallow: arr JBWE 1 Mar, early for genuine migr, but possibly wintered.

N. Rough-winged Swallow: arr Cold Spring Harbor 25 Mar, record-early but in line with recent trends.

Bank Swallow: arr 3 Peconic 22 Apr.

Cliff Swallow: 3 Shinn 10 May, migr.

Barn Swallow: widespread arr 5 Apr.

Tufted Titmouse: JBWE thru 14 Mar, from winter; v rare on barrier beach.

Red-breasted Nuthatch: northbound migr difficult to distinguish from wintering birds.

Brown Creeper: JBWE 8 Mar, unlikely site for overwintering; widespread reports 13-14 Mar; breeding EH 4, 10, 17 May.

House Wren: arr 2 s end SI 22 Apr; widespread arr 25 Apr.

Winter Wren: northbound migr difficult to distinguish from wintering birds; poss arr 19-20 Mar, Muttontown 9 May, late.

Marsh Wren: arr GCP, Bay Shore 26 Apr.

Golden-crowned Kinglet: widespread records through Mar, northbound migr difficult to distinguish from wintering birds.

Ruby-crowned Kinglet: CP 15 Mar, prob from winter; arr APP & HLSP 8 May; 30 CP 19 Apr; max 50 PP 22 Apr; 30 CLP 22 Apr.

Blue-gray Gnatcatcher: arr HLSP 30 Mar, record-early but in line with recent trends.

E. Bluebird: 1 Cold Spring Harbor & 2 EH 14 Mar, poss arr.

Veery: arr CP 25 Apr, early.

Gray-cheeked Thrush: arr CP and VSSP 3 May, early.

BICKNELL'S THRUSH: singing FP 9 May (JL, JR, et al.).

Swainson's Thrush: arr PP 25 Apr; CP 26 Apr, early.

Hermit Thrush: widespread records through Mar, northbound migr difficult to distinguish from wintering birds; widespread arr 12-13 Apr; max 45 CP 19 Apr; last migr CP 23 May, late.

Wood Thrush: widespread arr 25 Apr.

Am. Robin: 350 Deep Hollow, Montauk 12 Apr.

VARIED THRUSH: Sands Pt, NASS 5, 24 Mar (D Kurz ph). from winter.

Gray Catbird: many wintered; widespread arr 25 Apr.

Brown Thrasher: widespread arr 10 Apr; max 8 Plumb Beach 26 Apr.

American Pipit: SMCP 25 Mar.

Cedar Waxwing: influx end Mar/early Apr.

WARBLERS

Blue-winged Warbler: widespread arr (four counties) 25 Apr.

Golden-winged Warbler: Riverside P 4 May (JN); PP 7 May.

"Brewster's" Warbler: CP 2 May; CP 6 May (ph, fide DA).

Tennessee Warbler: arr CHP 7 May, more widely 8 May.

Orange-crowned Warbler: APP 22-31 Mar, prob from winter; six reports 19 Apr-9 May.

Nashville Warbler: arr CP 25 Apr.

N. Parula: arr HLSP 31 Mar, v early; 2 Hunters Garden, SUFF 10 Apr.

- Yellow Warbler:** arr WPP & PP 22 Apr.
- Chestnut-sided Warbler:** arr 2 CP 25 Apr.
- Magnolia Warbler:** arr 2 CP 25 Apr; arr e LI Northport 27 Apr.
- Cape May Warbler:** arr CP 25 Apr.
- Black-throated Blue Warbler:** arr 2 CP & PP 25 Apr.
- Yellow-rumped Warbler:** heavy migr 22 Apr; 50 s end SI, 25 CLP, 40 PP, & 'teeming' HLSP; 125+ PP 27 Apr.
- Black-throated Green Warbler:** arr PP 17 Apr, CP & HLSP 19 Apr.
- TOWNSEND'S WARBLER:** PP 25 Apr (SA ph, mob).
- Blackburnian Warbler:** arr Owl's Head P & PP 26 Apr; arr e LI 2 Greenport 2 May.
- Yellow-throated Warbler:** DOP 10-13 Apr (RJ et al.); CP 10-18 Apr (TM, mob); PP 22-27 Apr (R Anderson, mob); SMSP 25 Apr (VP); CP 30 Apr-1 May; GW Cem 26 Apr; Muttontown Pres 23 May; West Islip 24 May (RG).
- Pine Warbler:** northbound migr difficult to distinguish from wintering birds, e.g., Connetquot Ri SP Pres 5 Mar & Quogue Ref 7 Mar; def migr HLSP 19 Mar & NY Botanical Gardens 25 Mar; max 100 Shu Swamp 8 Apr, cont trend of v large spring counts in recent years; last migr NY Botanical Gardens 6 May.
- Prairie Warbler:** arr CLP 18 Apr & WPP 24 Apr; widespread arr 25 Apr.
- Palm Warbler:** *hypochrysea* arr Owl's Head P, KING 5 Apr; no definite reports of *palmarum*.
- Bay-breasted Warbler:** arr CP 26 Apr, v early; more widespread 8 May.
- Blackpoll Warbler:** arr PP 25 Apr, early.
- Cerulean Warbler:** arr f CLP 18 Apr (SWo); m CLP 19 Apr (EJ); 8 reports 27 Apr-24 May, east to FP & Jam Bay; HLSP 2 May.
- Black-and-white Warbler:** arr CP 12 Apr; SI 14 Apr (MS).
- Am. Redstart:** arr f CP 25 Apr; arr e LI Northville 1 May; late pulse 30 May, e.g., city parks & 4 CCP.
- Prothonotary Warbler:** arr Southards Pd, Babylon 4 Apr (PM); 12 reports 12 Apr-10 May.
- Worm-eating Warbler:** arr Babylon 12 Apr; arr more widely 19 Apr; arr e LI Greenport 26 Apr.
- Ovenbird:** arr VSSP 18 Apr (RJK).
- N. Waterthrush:** arr HLSP 19 Apr.
- Louisiana Waterthrush:** arr CP & 2 PP 8 Apr; arr more widely 10 Apr.
- Kentucky Warbler:** PP 27 Apr; CP 29 Apr; Southards Pd, Babylon 4-7 May; APP 7 May; FP 10 May; Rocky Pt DEC 18-19 May;
- Riverside P & PP 19 May; PP 23 May; CP 27 May.
- Mourning Warbler:** widespread arr 15 May; about 20 reports through 31 May.
- Com. Yellowthroat:** Manhattan 12 Mar, prob from winter; SI 14 Apr, moot; widespread arr 25 Apr.
- Hooded Warbler:** arr CP 20 Apr; widespread arr 25 Apr; arr e LI Amagansett 3 May.
- Wilson's Warbler:** PP 19 Apr, bizarre date, conceivably a bird that wintered nearby; arr Riverside P 1 May.
- Canada Warbler:** arr CP 26 Apr, v early.
- Yellow-breasted Chat:** arr CP 6 May; only 4 more reports thru 24 May.

TANAGERS - WEAVERS

- Summer Tanager:** ad m GCP, Bay Shore 10 Apr; m Sayville 16-17 Apr; 2 FP 2 May; ad m CP 6-10 May; f CP 10 May; HLSP 9 May; Owl's Head P, KING 9 May; GW Cem 10 May; Babylon 11 May; 2 PP 9-11 May w 3 sep inds here 10 May; GW Cem 10 May; Park Place, KING 15 May; imm m Riverside P 20 May; ad m CP 21 May.
- Scarlet Tanager:** Snug Harbor, RICH 10 Apr (EC), exceptional date; widespread arr 26 Apr.
- E. Towhee:** widespread reports of winter survivors early Mar; general arr mid Apr.
- Am. Tree Sparrow:** last JBWE 29 Mar except 1 CP 18 Apr, late; 1 Marine P KINGS 1 May (HL ph), v late.
- Chipping Sparrow:** JBWE 3 Mar & CP 8 Mar, prob wintered; major flight 22 Apr, e.g., 50 s end SI, 75 CLP, & 25 PP.
- Field Sparrow:** small numbers cont from winter; migr max 12 GKP 10 Apr.
- Vesper Sparrow:** RMSP 4 Mar (JQ), prob wintered; migr CP 2 May; Calverton 7 May, breeding site.
- Lark Sparrow:** JBWE 24 Apr (SJ), v rare in spring.
- Savannah Sparrow:** 6 JBWE 4 Mar, from winter, major flight barrier beaches 18 Apr; 14 CP 7 May, many for site; *princeps* cont thru early Mar from winter, last Sagg 25 Apr, late.
- Grasshopper Sparrow:** arr 2 Calverton 7 May; Riverside P 18 May, unus away from breeding sites.
- Nelson's Sharp-tailed Sparrow:** Marine P, KING 22-29 Apr prob wintered nearby; Plumb Beach 8 May; moot; 4 s Plumb Beach 28 May; s Dune Rd 30 May, typical dates/locs for migr.
- Saltmarsh Sharp-tailed Sparrow:** arr GCP, Bay Shore 6 May; migr CP 13 May, unus loc.
- Seaside Sparrow:** arr Plumb Beach 17 Apr.
- Fox Sparrow:** five widespread reports 2-17 Mar.

- Song Sparrow:** major flight 21-22 Mar.
- Lincoln's Sparrow:** arr JBWE 26 Apr; about five other reports, all NYC.
- White-throated Sparrow:** max 200 s end SI 22 Apr; 100 s end SI 7 May.
- White-crowned Sparrow:** imm *gambelii* Shinn 1 Mar (PJL, SSM ph).
- Dark-eyed Junco:** last RMSP 8 May, late.
- Lapland Longspur:** max 14 JBWE 1 Mar, from winter; last 4 JBWE 8 Mar.
- N. Cardinal:** fledgling KING 6 May.
- Rose-breasted Grosbeak:** one pulse prior to general arrival end Apr/early May: Barclay, RICH 21 Apr & imm m Cedar Beach, SUFF 22 Apr.
- Blue Grosbeak:** several pulses prior to arr of breeders mid-late May: imm m Montauk 5 Apr; m E Moriches 7-12 Apr; m JBSP 8 Apr; f Peconic 22 Apr; m Kissena P 23 Apr; GW Cem 25 Apr; imm m FBF 29 Apr; BBG 29 Apr; Camp Hero 29 Apr, incr to 3 on 1 May and 4 on 4 May; 2 Shelter I feeder 7-10 May; m Riverside P 10-16 May; PP 10-13 May; f VSSP 15 May; APP 17 May; m CP 22, 24 May; likely breeders inc: f Rocky Pt, DEC 14 May; ad m Hunters Garden 17 May; ad m & imm m Rte. 51 Bikepath 23 May & f there 30 May; 2 m Montauk 29 May; imm m Pine Meadows, Eastport 30 May; *intro*.
- Indigo Bunting:** three pulses prior to general arrival in early May: EH 4 Apr & 2 Jam Bay 5 Apr; 3 Cutchogue 15 Apr; and Marine P, RMSP, & Rocky Pt 22 Apr; *intro*.
- Bobolink:** widespread reports of migr early May; max 50 Garvey's Pt Rd, Glen Cove 9 May (MN).
- E. Meadowlark:** s Grumman 28 Mar, one of few remaining Regional breeding sites.
- Rusty Blackbird:** many reports thru Mar from all counties except KING; max 100 Oakland L, QUEE 22 Mar; last 3 CP 26 Apr, Northport 2 May, & FP 3 May.
- Orchard Oriole:** widespread arr 25 Apr.
- Baltimore Oriole:** widespread arr 25 Apr, four counties.
- Purple Finch:** 3 Water Mill 7 Mar prob wintered; widespread reports 1-10 May.
- White-winged Crossbill:** many widespread counts of 5-30 thru Mar; late reports inc 17 Maple Swamp, Flanders 17 Apr (CS), pr Huntington 19 Apr (B Brandine), 30 EH 3-4 May (HM), and Hunters Garden 23 May.
- Pine Siskin:** many widespread reports thru 25 Apr; max 120 Calverton 11 Apr; 85 Hunters Garden 25 Apr, good count; late reports inc 4 EH 10 May & 'lots' Riverhead 11 May.

EXOTICS

- Mitred Parakeet:** 15 Forest Hills, QUEE 13 Apr (SA), see article this issue.
- European Goldfinch:** two reports SI, 2 & 25 Mar, FBF 6 May (mob).
- European Greenfinch:** DOP 6 May (ph, video).



STANDARD ABBREVIATIONS

Regional rarities appear in BOLD; county names are shortened to their first four letters and appear in UPPER CASE letters; months are shortened to their first three letters. In species accounts: number of individuals omitted implies that one individual was reported; ! - details seen by Regional Editor; ad - adult; Alt - Alternate plumage; Am. - American; arr - arrival or first of season; BBS - Breeding Bird Survey; BOTS - bird of the season; CBC - Christmas Bird Count; CO - confirmed nesting; Com. - Common; E. - Eastern; FL - fledgling; FY - adult feeding young; I - Island; imm - immature; intro - see introduction to report; juv - juvenile; L - Lake; max - maximum; mob - multiple observers; N. - Northern; NYSDEC - New York State Department of Environmental Conservation; NWR - National Wildlife Refuge; NYSARC - report to New York State Avian Records Committee; P - park; Pd - Pond; ph - photographed; Pt - Point; Res - Reservoir; Ri - River; SP - State Park; spm - specimen; subad - subadult; T - Town of; thru - throughout period; Twn - township; W. - Western; WMA - Wildlife Management Area; y - young.

REPORTING REGIONS

Regional boundaries coincide with county lines, except at:

Region 1-Region 2 in Orleans, Genesee and Wyoming Counties:

the boundary is NY Route 98 from Pt. Breeze to Batavia;
NY Route 63 from Batavia to Pavilion, and NY Route 19
from Pavilion to the Allegany County line.

Region 2-Region 3 in Ontario County:

the boundary is Mud Creek to NY Route 64, NY Route 64
from Bristol Center to S. Bristol Springs, and Route 21
from S. Bristol Springs to the Yates County line.

Region 3-Region 5 in Cayuga County:

the boundary is NY Route 31.

REPORTING DEADLINES

Winter Season: December, January, February

Deadline is 7 March

Spring Season: March, April, May

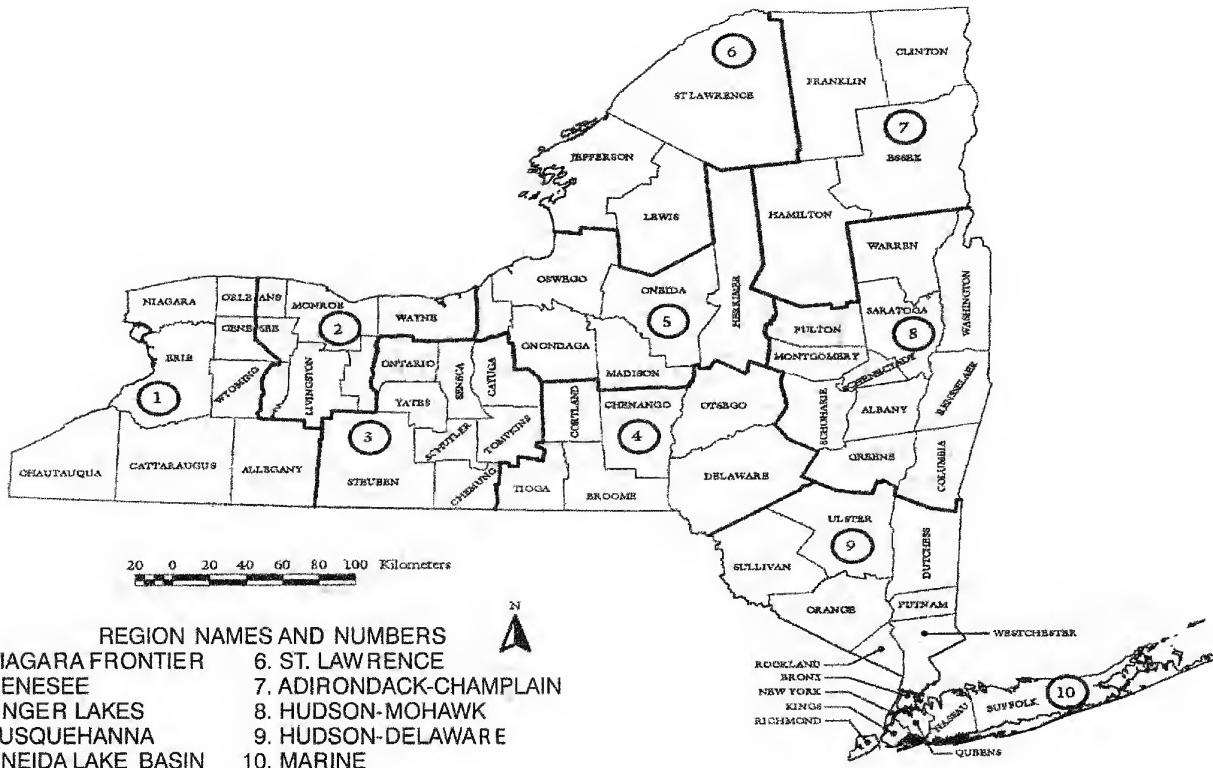
Deadline is 7 June

Summer Season: June, July, August

Deadline is 7 September

Fall Season: September, October, November

Deadline is 7 December



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